

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 135—COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES)

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to homelessness.  
(BDR 40-324)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to homelessness; revising the process for persons who are homeless to apply for a certified or official copy of a birth certificate; requiring the Nevada Housing Crisis Response System to assist persons in crisis who are applying for a state identification card; revising requirements for the issuance of a state identification card to certain homeless children and youth; requiring certain counties to develop a strategic plan to address homelessness; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law requires the State Board of Health to provide, and the State  
2 Registrar of Vital Statistics to carry out, a system for the registration of births and  
3 deaths in this State. (NRS 440.120) Existing law requires the State Registrar, and  
4 authorizes certain other entities, to issue a certified copy of a certificate of birth to  
5 an applicant if the applicant meets certain requirements. (NRS 440.175, 440.650)  
6 Existing law prohibits: (1) the State Registrar from charging a fee for a certified  
7 copy of a record of birth to a homeless person who submits on a form prescribed by  
8 the State Registrar a statement signed under penalty of perjury that the person is  
9 homeless; and (2) another person or governmental organization from charging a fee  
10 for a certified or official copy of a certificate of birth to a homeless person who  
11 submits a signed affidavit on a form prescribed by the State Registrar stating that  
12 the person is homeless. (NRS 440.175, 440.700) Existing law prohibits the State  
13 Registrar from requiring the signed statement that a person is homeless be



14 notarized. (NRS 440.700) **Section 1** of this bill: (1) requires a homeless person who  
15 wishes to obtain a certified or official copy of a certificate of birth from a person or  
16 governmental organization, other than the State Registrar, to submit a statement  
17 signed under penalty of perjury that the person is homeless rather than a signed  
18 affidavit; and (2) prohibits such a person or governmental entity from requiring that  
19 such a signed statement be notarized.

20 **Sections 1 and 2** of this bill require the State Registrar and other entities who  
21 issue certified or official copies of birth certificates to notify an applicant for a  
22 certified or official copy of a birth certificate upon determining that required  
23 documents are missing from the application. If the applicant is homeless, **sections 1**  
24 **and 2** require the State Registrar or other entity to allow the applicant at least 30  
25 days after the notice was provided to submit the missing documents.

26 Existing law allows certain residents or seasonal residents of this State who do  
27 not hold a valid driver's license or identification card to apply for an identification  
28 card in this State. (NRS 483.810-483.890) Existing law requires the Department of  
29 Health and Human Services to establish and administer the Nevada Housing Crisis  
30 Response System to provide certain types of assistance to persons who are  
31 transient, at imminent risk of homelessness or homeless. (NRS 422A.680) **Section**  
32 **3** of this bill requires the System to collaborate with the Department of Motor  
33 Vehicles to facilitate assistance to persons in crisis who wish to apply for such an  
34 identification card.

35 Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to waive, not more  
36 than one time, all fees and costs for the issuance of an original or duplicate  
37 identification card to a homeless child or youth less than 25 years of age. (NRS  
38 483.825) **Section 4** of this bill removes the limitation that such fees and costs may  
39 be waived only once, thus requiring the Department to waive all fees and costs for  
40 the issuance of any identification card issued to a homeless child or youth less than  
41 25 years of age.

42 Existing law requires an applicant for an identification card to provide to the  
43 Department of Motor Vehicles: (1) proof of his or her full legal name and age; and  
44 (2) if he or she has been issued a social security number, proof of that social  
45 security number. (NRS 483.850, 483.860) **Section 5** of this bill removes the  
46 requirement to provide proof of a social security number for any applicant who is a  
47 homeless child or youth less than 25 years of age. **Section 6** of this bill authorizes  
48 an applicant who is a homeless child or youth less than 25 years of age to prove his  
49 or her legal name and age by providing a school identification card that meets  
50 certain requirements.

51 **Section 7** of this bill requires each county whose population is 100,000 or more  
52 (currently Clark and Washoe Counties), during the 2023-2024 legislative interim,  
53 to: (1) develop a strategic plan to address homelessness in the county and the cities  
54 or towns within the county; (2) submit the plan to the Joint Interim Standing  
55 Committee on Health and Human Services; and (3) present the contents of the plan  
56 at a meeting of the Committee.

---

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 440.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 440.175 1. Upon request, the State Registrar may furnish  
3 statistical data to any federal, state, local or other public or private  
4 agency, upon such terms or conditions as may be prescribed by the  
5 Board.



1 2. No person may prepare or issue any document which  
2 purports to be an original, certified copy, certified abstract or  
3 official copy of:

4 (a) A certificate of birth, death or fetal death, except as  
5 authorized in this chapter or by the Board.

6 (b) A certificate of marriage, except a county clerk, county  
7 recorder or a person so required pursuant to NRS 122.120.

8 (c) A decree of divorce or annulment of marriage, except a  
9 county clerk or the judge of a court of record.

10 3. A person or governmental organization which issues  
11 certified or official copies pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2  
12 shall:

13 (a) Not charge a fee for issuing a certified or official copy of a  
14 certificate of birth to:

15 (1) A homeless person who submits ~~[a signed affidavit]~~ on a  
16 form prescribed by the State Registrar ~~[stating]~~ *a statement signed*  
17 *under penalty of perjury* that the person is homeless. *The issuing*  
18 *person or governmental organization shall not require such a*  
19 *statement to be notarized.*

20 (2) A person who submits documentation from the  
21 Department of Corrections verifying that the person is imprisoned or  
22 was released from prison within the immediately preceding 90 days.

23 (b) Remit to the State Registrar fees collected which are charged  
24 in an amount established by the State Registrar by regulation:

25 (1) For each registration of a birth or death in its district.

26 (2) For each copy issued of a certificate of birth in its district,  
27 other than a copy issued pursuant to paragraph (a).

28 (3) For each copy issued of a certificate of death in its  
29 district.

30 4. *A person or governmental organization which issues*  
31 *certified or official copies pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection*  
32 *2 shall, upon determining that required documents are missing*  
33 *from an application for a certified or official copy of a certificate*  
34 *of birth, notify the applicant of the deficiency. Such notice must*  
35 *include, without limitation, notice of the additional documents that*  
36 *the applicant must submit. If the applicant is a homeless person*  
37 *who submits on a form prescribed by the State Registrar a*  
38 *statement signed under penalty of perjury that the person is*  
39 *homeless, the person or governmental organization shall allow the*  
40 *applicant at least 30 days after the date of the notice to submit the*  
41 *missing documents. The issuing person or governmental*  
42 *organization shall not require the signed statement to be notarized.*



1       **Sec. 2.** NRS 440.650 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2       440.650 1. Upon request, the State Registrar shall furnish any  
3 applicant a certified copy of the record of any birth or death  
4 registered under the provisions of this chapter.

5       2. The State Registrar shall not issue a certified copy of a  
6 certificate or parts thereof unless the State Registrar is satisfied that  
7 the applicant therefor has a direct and tangible interest in the matter  
8 recorded, subject, however, to review by the Board or a court of  
9 competent jurisdiction under the limitations of NRS 440.170.

10       **3. *The State Registrar shall, upon determining that required***  
11 ***documents are missing from an application for a certified copy of***  
12 ***a certificate of birth, notify the applicant of the deficiency. Such***  
13 ***notice must include, without limitation, notice of the additional***  
14 ***documents that the applicant must submit. If the applicant is a***  
15 ***homeless person who submits on a form prescribed by the State***  
16 ***Registrar a statement signed under penalty of perjury that the***  
17 ***person is homeless, the State Registrar shall allow the applicant at***  
18 ***least 30 days after the date of the notice to submit the missing***  
19 ***documents. The State Registrar shall not require the signed***  
20 ***statement to be notarized.***

21       **Sec. 3.** NRS 422A.680 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
22       422A.680 1. To the extent that money is available for this  
23 purpose, the Department shall establish and administer the Nevada  
24 Housing Crisis Response System.

25       2. The System must:  
26       (a) Coordinate with social service agencies, local governments  
27 and nonprofit organizations to, as quickly as possible, identify,  
28 assess, refer and connect persons in crisis to housing, assistance and  
29 services, including, without limitation, emergency services,  
30 emergency shelters, interim housing and permanent housing.

31       (b) Provide and operate a system for responding to a crisis that  
32 is accessible by a person in crisis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week,  
33 including holidays, through which a person in crisis may be  
34 identified, assessed, referred and connected to housing, assistance  
35 and services pursuant to paragraph (a).

36       (c) Provide education or information on how persons in crisis  
37 may access and use the System for responding to a crisis that is  
38 provided pursuant to paragraph (b).

39       (d) To prevent homelessness, develop prevention assistance  
40 programs that assist persons who are:

- 41       (1) Transient or at imminent risk of homelessness in:  
42       (I) Preserving their current housing situation;  
43       (II) Identifying housing arrangements as an alternative to  
44 their current housing situation; or



1 (III) Immediately finding housing arrangements for  
2 persons who are leaving a housing situation that is not safe; and

3 (2) Homeless in finding housing arrangements.

4 *(e) Collaborate with the Department of Motor Vehicles to*  
5 *facilitate assistance to persons in crisis who wish to apply for an*  
6 *identification card in accordance with the provisions of NRS*  
7 *483.810 to 483.890, inclusive.*

8 3. The System may perform any other action that:

9 (a) Assists persons in crisis; and

10 (b) Helps prevent or address homelessness in this State.

11 4. The Department may adopt such regulations as are necessary  
12 to carry out the provisions of this section and NRS 422A.690,  
13 including, without limitation, regulations requiring a person or  
14 entity that accepts money from the Department or a division thereof  
15 to participate in the System.

16 5. As used in this section, "person in crisis" means a person  
17 who is transient, at imminent risk of homelessness or homeless.

18 **Sec. 4.** NRS 483.825 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 483.825 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the  
20 Department shall waive the fee prescribed by NRS 483.820 and the  
21 increase in the fee required by NRS 483.347 not more than one time  
22 for furnishing a duplicate identification card to:

23 (a) A homeless person who submits a signed affidavit on a form  
24 prescribed by the Department stating that the person is homeless.

25 (b) A person who submits documentation from the Department  
26 of Corrections verifying that the person was released from prison  
27 within the immediately preceding 90 days.

28 (c) A person who submits documentation from a county, city or  
29 town jail or detention facility verifying that the person was released  
30 from the county, city or town jail, as applicable, within the  
31 immediately preceding 90 days.

32 2. A vendor that has entered into an agreement with the  
33 Department to produce photographs for identification cards pursuant  
34 to NRS 483.347 may waive the cost it charges the Department to  
35 produce the photograph of a homeless person or person released  
36 from prison, a county, city or town jail or detention facility for a  
37 duplicate identification card.

38 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, if the vendor  
39 does not waive pursuant to subsection 2 the cost it charges the  
40 Department and the Department has waived the increase in the fee  
41 required by NRS 483.347 for a duplicate identification card  
42 furnished to a person pursuant to subsection 1, the person shall  
43 reimburse the Department in an amount equal to the increase in the  
44 fee required by NRS 483.347 if the person:



1 (a) Applies to the Department for the renewal of his or her  
2 identification card; and

3 (b) Is employed at the time of such application.

4 4. The Department shall waive the fee prescribed by NRS  
5 483.820, the increase in the fee required by NRS 483.347 and the  
6 reimbursement required by subsection 3 ~~[not more than one time]~~  
7 for furnishing an original identification card or a duplicate  
8 identification card to a homeless child or youth less than 25 years of  
9 age who submits a signed affidavit on a form prescribed by the  
10 Department stating that the child or youth is homeless and less than  
11 25 years of age.

12 5. The Department may accept gifts, grants and donations of  
13 money to fund the provision of original and duplicate identification  
14 cards without a fee to persons pursuant to subsections 1 and 4.

15 6. As used in this section:

16 (a) "Homeless child or youth" has the meaning ascribed to ~~it~~  
17 *"homeless children and youths"* in 42 U.S.C. § 11434a.

18 (b) "Photograph" has the meaning ascribed to it in  
19 NRS 483.125.

20 **Sec. 5.** NRS 483.850 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 483.850 1. Every application for an identification card must  
22 be made upon a form provided by the Department and include,  
23 without limitation:

24 (a) The applicant's:

25 (1) Full legal name.

26 (2) Date of birth.

27 (3) State of legal residence.

28 (4) Current address of principal residence and mailing  
29 address, if different from his or her address of principal residence, in  
30 this State, unless the applicant is on active duty in the military  
31 service of the United States.

32 (b) A statement from:

33 (1) A resident stating that he or she does not hold a valid  
34 driver's license or identification card from any state or jurisdiction;  
35 or

36 (2) A seasonal resident stating that he or she does not hold a  
37 valid Nevada driver's license.

38 2. When the form is completed, the applicant must sign the  
39 form and verify the contents before a person authorized to  
40 administer oaths.

41 3. ~~[And]~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, an*  
42 applicant who has been issued a social security number must  
43 provide to the Department for inspection:



1 (a) An original card issued to the applicant by the Social  
2 Security Administration bearing the social security number of the  
3 applicant; or

4 (b) Other proof acceptable to the Department bearing the social  
5 security number of the applicant, including, without limitation,  
6 records of employment or federal income tax returns.

7 4. At the time of applying for an identification card, an  
8 applicant may, if eligible, preregister or register to vote pursuant to  
9 NRS 293.5727 or 293.5742.

10 5. A person who possesses a driver's license or identification  
11 card issued by another state or jurisdiction who wishes to apply for  
12 an identification card pursuant to this section shall surrender to the  
13 Department the driver's license or identification card issued by the  
14 other state or jurisdiction at the time the person applies for an  
15 identification card pursuant to this section.

16 *6. The provisions of subsection 3 do not apply to a homeless*  
17 *child or youth less than 25 years of age who submits a signed*  
18 *affidavit on a form prescribed by the Department stating that the*  
19 *child or youth is homeless and less than 25 years of age.*

20 *7. As used in this section, "homeless child or youth" has the*  
21 *meaning ascribed to "homeless children and youths" in 42 U.S.C.*  
22 *§ 11434a.*

23 **Sec. 6.** NRS 483.860 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 483.860 1. ~~Every~~ *Except as otherwise provided in*  
25 *subsection 4, every* applicant for an identification card must furnish  
26 proof of his or her full legal name and age by presenting:

27 (a) An original or certified copy of the required documents as  
28 prescribed by regulation; or

29 (b) A photo identification card issued by the Department of  
30 Corrections pursuant to NRS 209.511 which indicates that the  
31 Director of the Department of Corrections has verified the full legal  
32 name and age of the applicant pursuant to subsection 5 of that  
33 section.

34 2. The Director shall adopt regulations:

35 (a) Prescribing the documents an applicant may use to furnish  
36 proof of his or her full legal name and age to the Department  
37 pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1, including, without  
38 limitation, a document issued by the Department pursuant to NRS  
39 483.375 or 483.8605; and

40 (b) Setting forth criteria pursuant to which the Department will  
41 issue or refuse to issue an identification card in accordance with this  
42 section to a person who is a citizen of a state or a foreign country.  
43 The criteria pursuant to which the Department shall issue or refuse  
44 to issue an identification card to a citizen of a foreign country must



1 be based upon the purpose for which that person is present within  
2 the United States.

3 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the  
4 Department shall not accept a consular identification card as proof  
5 of the age or identity of an applicant for an identification card. As  
6 used in this subsection, “consular identification card” has the  
7 meaning ascribed to it in NRS 232.006.

8 *4. If an applicant is a homeless child or youth less than 25*  
9 *years of age who submits a signed affidavit on a form prescribed*  
10 *by the Department stating that the child or youth is homeless and*  
11 *less than 25 years of age, the applicant may satisfy the*  
12 *requirements of subsection 1 by presenting a school identification*  
13 *card. A school identification card presented pursuant to this*  
14 *subsection must include, without limitation:*

- 15 (a) *The name of the school that issued the card;*
- 16 (b) *The first and last name of the applicant;*
- 17 (c) *A photograph of the applicant; and*
- 18 (d) *The date of birth of the applicant.*

19 5. *As used in this section:*

- 20 (a) *“Homeless child or youth” has the meaning ascribed to*  
21 *“homeless children and youths” in 42 U.S.C. § 11434a.*
- 22 (b) *“Photograph” has the meaning ascribed to it in*  
23 *NRS 483.125.*

24 **Sec. 7.** 1. During the 2023-2024 legislative interim, each  
25 county whose population is 100,000 or more shall develop a  
26 strategic plan to address homelessness in the county and the cities  
27 and towns within the county. The strategic plan must include,  
28 without limitation:

29 (a) A needs assessment, which must:

30 (1) Comprehensively address homelessness within the  
31 county, with a special focus on homeless children and youths less  
32 than 25 years of age and children in foster care who are at risk of  
33 becoming homeless; and

34 (2) Address behavioral and mental health issues of youth and  
35 young adults that may increase the risk of homelessness.

36 (b) Measures to establish a formal and holistic framework for  
37 coordination between the county and the cities and towns within the  
38 county to ensure the provision of permanent supportive housing and  
39 other services for persons who are homeless.

40 (c) A plan to increase the amount of permanent supportive  
41 housing for persons with severe mental health disorders who require  
42 long-term supportive care, with an emphasis on adults less than 25  
43 years of age with such disorders.

44 (d) Solutions for simplifying the process to find and establish  
45 locations for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing or





1 other services for persons who are homeless, including, without  
2 limitation, actions to remove barriers in local ordinances to the  
3 development of housing for persons who are homeless.

4 (e) Potential sources of funding, including, without limitation:

5 (1) Reimbursement through federal programs that would  
6 allow the county and cities and towns within the county to increase  
7 services for persons who are homeless in a sustainable manner; and

8 (2) Additional funding for transitional housing, including,  
9 without limitation, programs for independent living for youth and  
10 adults less than 25 years of age who are homeless or in foster care.

11 2. Each county that develops a strategic plan pursuant to  
12 subsection 1 shall, on or before August 1, 2024:

13 (a) Prepare and submit the plan to the Joint Interim Standing  
14 Committee on Health and Human Services; and

15 (b) Make a presentation of the contents of the plan at a meeting  
16 of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human  
17 Services.

18 3. As used in this section, “homeless child or youth” has the  
19 meaning ascribed to “homeless children and youths” in 42 U.S.C. §  
20 11434a.

21 **Sec. 8.** 1. This section and section 7 of this act become  
22 effective on July 1, 2023.

23 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective on  
24 October 1, 2023.

