

Senate Bill No. 279–Senator Spearman

Joint Sponsor: Assemblywoman Brown-May

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to disabilities; establishing the State as a Model Employer Program in the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law: (1) declares that it is the policy of this State that persons with disabilities must be afforded equal opportunities in employment by the State; and (2) requires full consideration to be given to the employment of a person with a disability for a position if the person is capable of performing the essential functions of the position with or without reasonable accommodations. (NRS 284.012, 284.317) **Section 3** of this bill establishes the State as a Model Employer Program in the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to ensure that each appointing authority design and proactively implement best, promising and emerging policies, practices and procedures relating to the hiring, promotion and retention of persons with disabilities. **Section 3** further requires the Administrator of the Division, in coordination with the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, to provide technical assistance and training to each appointing authority on such policies, practices and procedures.

Section 3.5 of this bill makes an appropriation to the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration for personnel, operating, equipment, travel and information services costs to carry out the State as a Model Employer Program established by **section 3**.

Section 2 of this bill provides that the Legislature finds and declares that: (1) it is the policy of this State to be a model for persons with disabilities; and (2) the intent of establishing the Program is to provide agencies in the Executive Department of the State Government a framework for recruiting, hiring, promoting and retaining qualified persons with disabilities.

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

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

Section 1. Chapter 284 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. *The Legislature finds and declares that:*

1. It is the policy of this State to be a model employer for persons with disabilities.

2. The intent of establishing the State as a Model Employer Program pursuant to section 3 of this act is to provide agencies in



the Executive Department of the State Government a framework for recruiting, hiring, promoting and retaining qualified persons with disabilities.

Sec. 3. *1. The State as a Model Employer Program is hereby established in the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration, to be administered by the Administrator. The Program must ensure that each appointing authority design and proactively implement best, promising and emerging policies, practices and procedures relating to the hiring, promotion and retention of persons with disabilities.*

2. The Administrator shall, in coordination with the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, provide technical assistance and training to each appointing authority on best, promising and emerging policies, practices and procedures relating to the hiring, promotion and retention of persons with disabilities.

3. The Commission shall adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the Program.

Sec. 3.5. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration for personnel, operating, equipment, travel and information services costs to carry out the State as a Model Employer Program established by section 3 of this act the following sums:

For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024	\$80,195
For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025	\$98,171

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively.

Sec. 4. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

- 2. Section 3.5 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.
- 3. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective:



- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
- (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

