

SENATE BILL NO. 222—SENATOR SCHEIBLE

MARCH 11, 2021

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to governmental administration. (BDR 18-245)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to governmental administration; requiring a state agency to collaborate with minority groups and provide certain information to minority groups; requiring a state agency to designate a diversity and inclusion liaison and provide the contact information for the designated diversity and inclusion liaison; requiring the Office of Minority Health and Equity of the Department of Health and Human Services to facilitate an annual meeting between diversity and inclusion liaisons and minority groups and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislative Commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates the Office of Minority Health and Equity within the
2 Department of Health and Human Services. (NRS 232.474) The purpose of the
3 Office of Minority Health and Equity is to improve the quality of and access to
4 health care for certain minority groups and to disseminate information to educate
5 the public on certain health care issues relating to these minority groups. (NRS
6 232.474) **Section 9** of this bill requires a state agency to collaborate with minority
7 groups on policies, agreements and programs that affect minority groups and ensure
8 that programs and services are accessible and inclusive. **Section 10** of this bill
9 requires a state agency to designate a diversity and inclusion liaison and sets forth
10 the duties of such a liaison. **Section 11** of this bill requires a state agency to post on
11 its Internet website the name and contact information of its diversity and inclusion
12 liaison and provide that information to the Office of Minority Health and Equity.
13 **Section 12** of this bill requires the Office of Minority Health and Equity to
14 facilitate a meeting between diversity and inclusion liaisons and representatives of
15 minority groups at least once a year. **Section 12** also requires the Office of Minority
16 Health and Equity to compile and submit a report to the Governor and the Director



17 of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on the findings and recommendations from the
18 meeting.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 232 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this act,*
5 *unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined*
6 *in sections 3 to 8, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed*
7 *to them in those sections.*

8 **Sec. 3.** *“Agreement” means a written agreement or a written*
9 *contract of a state agency.*

10 **Sec. 4. 1.** *“Minority group” means:*

11 *(a) A racial or ethnic minority group;*

12 *(b) A group of persons with disabilities;*

13 *(c) A group of persons that share the same sexual orientation;*

14 *or*

15 *(d) A group of persons whose gender-related identity,*
16 *appearance, expression or behavior is different than that assigned*
17 *at birth.*

18 2. *As used in this section, “sexual orientation” means having*
19 *or being perceived as having an orientation for heterosexuality,*
20 *homosexuality or bisexuality.*

21 **Sec. 5.** *“Office of Minority Health and Equity” means the*
22 *Office of Minority Health and Equity created within the*
23 *Department of Health and Human Services by NRS 232.474.*

24 **Sec. 6.** *“Policy” means an official public policy of a state*
25 *agency that creates a common practice relating to a class of issues.*

26 **Sec. 7.** *“Program” means an official program of a state*
27 *agency.*

28 **Sec. 8.** *“State agency” means every agency, bureau, board,*
29 *commission, department or division of the Executive Department*
30 *of State Government.*

31 **Sec. 9.** *A state agency shall make a reasonable effort to:*

32 1. *Collaborate with members of minority groups in the*
33 *development and implementation of policies, agreements and*
34 *programs of the state agency that directly affect minority groups.*

35 2. *Ensure that programs and services offered by the state*
36 *agency are accessible to and inclusive of minority groups.*

37 3. *Communicate effectively with minority groups by making*
38 *information about programs and services available in multiple*
39 *languages whenever possible.*



1 **Sec. 10.** *Each state agency that interacts or communicates*
2 *with minority groups or offers programs and services that affect*
3 *minority groups shall designate a diversity and inclusion liaison*
4 *who reports directly to the head of the state agency. The diversity*
5 *and inclusion liaison shall:*

6 1. *Assist the head of the state agency with:*

7 (a) *Promoting effective communication with minority groups;*

8 (b) *Promoting cultural competency in providing effective*
9 *services to minority groups; and*

10 (c) *Establishing a method for notifying employees of a state*
11 *agency of the provisions of sections 1 to 12, inclusive, of this act.*

12 2. *Serve as a contact person who shall maintain ongoing*
13 *communication between the state agency and members of minority*
14 *groups.*

15 3. *Collect and incorporate feedback on new programs and*
16 *services offered by the state agency to minority groups that are*
17 *intended to increase accessibility and inclusivity for members of*
18 *minority groups.*

19 4. *To the extent possible, collaborate with diversity and*
20 *inclusion liaisons designated by other state agencies to increase*
21 *the accessibility and inclusivity of services to members of minority*
22 *groups.*

23 **Sec. 11.** *A state agency required to designate a diversity and*
24 *inclusion liaison pursuant to section 10 of this act shall:*

25 1. *Publish on its Internet website the name and contact*
26 *information of the state agency's diversity and inclusion liaison.*

27 2. *Provide the name and contact information of the state*
28 *agency's diversity and inclusion liaison to the Office of Minority*
29 *Health and Equity.*

30 **Sec. 12.** 1. *At least once each year, the Office of Minority*
31 *Health and Equity shall facilitate a meeting between diversity and*
32 *inclusion liaisons designated pursuant to section 10 of this act and*
33 *representatives of various minority groups to make*
34 *recommendations regarding and address:*

35 (a) *Matters of mutual concern between state agencies and*
36 *minority groups;*

37 (b) *Opportunities to collaborate and increase the accessibility*
38 *and inclusivity of services delivered to minority groups;*

39 (c) *The need for state agencies to eliminate systemic racism*
40 *and structures of racial discrimination within the State of Nevada;*
41 *and*

42 (d) *Strategies for ensuring that members of minority groups*
43 *are able to access programs and services offered by the state*
44 *agency and interact with the State Government.*



1 **2.** *On or before January 1 of each year, the Office of*
2 *Minority Health and Equity shall submit to the Governor and to*
3 *the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to*
4 *the Legislative Commission a report on the findings and*
5 *recommendations from the meeting required by subsection 1.*

6 **Sec. 13.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
7 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
8 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

9 **Sec. 14.** This act becomes effective on January 1, 2022.

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