



January 26, 2011

Governor Sandoval
Office of the Governor
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Aging and Disability Services Division

Dear Governor Sandoval;

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for recognizing the necessity of preserving the Independent Living Grants that are funded by the Tobacco Settlement Funds and are so essential to keeping our seniors in their homes.

Nevada Senior Advocates, on behalf of the Nevada Senior Corps Association (NSCA) has started a detailed review of the Executive Budget. A preliminary review finds we are in general agreement with what is proposed for the Aging and Disability Services Division. We do however have a few additional items that we will be introducing in the budget and policy hearings that are designed to bring about additional efficiencies in addition to those you are recommending.

Most of these suggestions have either already been started or are underway. We believe it is possible to move them further down the road which will bring about additional savings and provide more efficiency in the delivery of services to the senior and disabled population. One of those is to build upon the ADSD mission "To coordinate all state and federal funding of service activities to the aging in Nevada." This effort is extremely important, and should be done in cooperation with providers.

It can best be accomplished by the creation of a function either in the Governor's Office or the Department of Health and Human Services, for Community-Based Organizations to serve as a focal point for bringing these players to the table with the State. This is very similar in concept to the approach being proposed for economic development. NSCA stands ready to not only assist in this effort, but to serve as the coordination vehicle to bring the appropriate players to the table – at no cost to the state, other than the provision of meeting places and conference and video conferencing support.



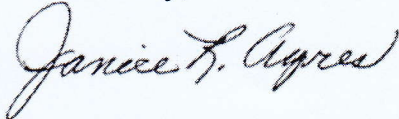
NSCA is currently doing this with the various for-profit providers and the state agencies that regulate the Personal Care Industry, with the encouragement and active support of Wendy Simons Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance.

There are other examples of issues that NSA will be advancing during the upcoming session to improve transparency, program efficiencies, and other measures that will bring about improvements to the service delivery system for our elderly and disabled populations.

Again, thank you for arranging for me to meet with your staff to discuss this and related issues.

More importantly, please accept my gratitude for understanding the needs of these populations in your difficult task of presenting a balanced budget to the Legislature.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice R. Ayres". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely;".

President NSCA