

Thank you Chair and Members of the Committee,

The Commission is tasked with making recommendations to the State of Nevada concerning the establishment and operations of programs for Person who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired. As part of its work, the Commission has stated/completed a 5 years Strategic Plan which lays out the community needs and goals to meet the needs of deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired Nevadans

Through several meetings, the Commission has learned the scope and breadth of needs throughout Nevada is significant.

The Commission has made the following additional BDR recommendations to help services for this community through outreach, collaboration and education.

I support the following 2 BDRs as presented by the Commission

AB563: Revise provisions governing services to persons with disabilities.

The Commission would like to add another seat to the Commission. The seat will be filled with a Person who is a Certified Sign Language Interpreter registered in the State of Nevada with proficient experience and knowledge of K-12, Post-Secondary, and Freelance Interpreting Services. By adding this seat, it will enable the Commission to be informed of any interpreting issues in Nevada

Along with personal insight to the experience of service providers as a student transitioning into the professional experience of service provisions. As a high current need within our state, having one that understands this first hand and is directly connected to this portion of our community, will allow the Commission to make informed decisions and recommendations to the Governor for statewide provisions and bill nee

AB 165: Makes changes to state issued identification.

Makes various changes to state-issued identification. To add a D for Deaf, HH for Hard of Hearing, SI for Speech Impaired. This will alert officers when approaching a vehicle the possibility of a hearing or speech issue.

Assuring an increased allied approach in communication and safety for the officer and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired community members that utilize alternative communication approaches or means.

Thank you for allowing me to state my support.