

Steve Sisolak
Governor



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

October 6, 2022

Director Richard Whitley, MS
State of Nevada
Department of Health and Human Services
400 West King St, Suite 300
Carson City, NV, 89703

Dear Director Whitley:

On behalf of the Home Care Employment Standards Board (HCEsb) created by Senate Bill (SB) 340, it has been recommended that the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) refer the matter of discrimination faced by home care workers to the appropriate state body and assert that an industry-wide investigation be conducted with the goal of developing policy solutions to systemic racism in the field, such as annual reporting by employers to safeguard against discrimination.

The motion calling for this recommendation passed by the Board during the October 4, 2022, HCEsb meeting and fulfills Section 16.2(f) SB 340:

The impact of systemic racism and economic injustice on home care employees and the adequacy of efforts to alleviate such impact through the development of career paths through partnerships between labor and management and other methods.

Through its committee on Systemic Racism and Economic Injustice, the HCEsb has heard of numerous experiences of home care workers facing discrimination based on their race. Workers, employers, and consumers have all voiced concerns about differences in pay, opportunities, assignments, hours, and treatment. Because of the dispersed nature of the workforce, it is insufficient to rely on individual caregivers filing complaints.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cody H. Phinney".

Cody Phinney
Chair of the Home Care Employment Standards Board
Deputy Administrator
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health