

Steve Sisolak
Governor



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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Richard Whitley, MS
Director

June 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 of the 2021 Legislative Session, the following recommendations have been made concerning the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Plan:

1. Recommendation that the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) reopens the deadline for employers to apply for the first round of \$500 supplemental payments and send a notice to employers stating they are expected to apply. It is also recommended that it become mandatory for employers to apply for future rounds of \$500 supplemental payments to employees.
2. Recommendation to require that Nevada Medicaid obtain reports from personal care agencies receiving the 15% supplemental payment on how they are spending that additional funding.

The motion calling for these recommendations passed unanimously by the board and subcommittee during the April 26, 2022, May 2, 2022, and May 24, 2022 HCESB meetings and fulfills Section 16.2(a) of SB 340:

The adequacy of wage rates and other compensation policies of home care employers to ensure the provision of quality services and sufficient levels of recruitment and retention of home care employees;

By acting on these recommendations, personal care workers will be positively impacted by the financial relief and employers will be held accountable for how supplemental funds are spent.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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

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