Steve Sisolak Governor



## **DEPARTMENT OF**

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** 

Richard Whitley, MS Director

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

July 18, 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) request a hearing on the Medicaid manuals that affect personal care to make a change that requires personal care agencies to only be permitted to hire W2 employees and ban the hiring of independent contractors by personal care agencies.

The motion calling for this recommendation passed by the Board during the June 28, 2022, HCESB meeting and fulfills Section 16.2(a) of SB 340:

A 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;

The realization of this recommendation would ensure workers under a personal care agency have access to the benefits and stability being an employee offers, as well as prevent misclassifications of workers as independent contractors by personal care agencies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cody h. Phiney

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