

To: Joint Committee on Health and Human Services/CIP

From: Bruce Arkell

Subject: DHHS Directors Office Budget – Consumer Health Assistance 101-3204

During the Aging and Disabilities Services Division budget hearing, I testified that you should consider moving the Aging and Disabilities Resource Center (ADRC) budget and staff to the Consumer Health Assistance Office. The rationale is the 2-1-1 system will be housed in this Office, and the family resource center activities which is funded out of the Directors Office, could all be managed by Consumer Health Assistance Office since all have similar functions.

All of these programs provide information and referral services to Nevada residents, and, all utilize information databases that contain overlapping information on providers and services that can be accessed by Nevadans in need.

I have had discussions with Mary Liveratti, Deputy Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, and she advised me that the Federal Administration on Aging is not supportive of moving ADRC at this time.

However, there does not seem to be an issue with consolidating the information databases. Sharing information through a system built upon the 2-1-1 system would result in savings to the state, provide for a more accountable information system, and more consistent data being shared with customers.

Each of the agencies would have their own portal to the data that would allow them to maintain the specific issues and needs the agency is addressing with the data.

It is proposed that the Department consolidate the 2-1-1, ADRC databases, and any other peripheral ones that are being worked on in ADSD in the Consumer Health Assistance Office.

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cc: Mary Liveratti