

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 113—ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS

PREFILED FEBRUARY 3, 2023

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates the Office of Early Childhood Systems within the Office of the Governor. (BDR 18-65)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to children; creating the Office of Early Childhood Systems within the Office of the Governor; prescribing the duties of the Office of Early Childhood Systems; authorizing the Office of Early Childhood Systems to request one legislative measure for each regular session of the Legislature; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates various offices within the Office of the Governor,
2 including, without limitation, the Office of Finance, the Office of Federal
3 Assistance, the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology, the Office for New
4 Americans and the Public Health Resource Office. (NRS 223.400-223.950) **Section**
5 **1** of this bill: (1) creates the Office of Early Childhood Systems within the Office of
6 the Governor; and (2) requires the Governor to appoint the Director of the Office of
7 Early Childhood Systems. The Office of Early Childhood Systems is required to:
8 (1) analyze whether the existing early childhood system meets the needs of this
9 State; (2) evaluate the effectiveness of the relationships between certain persons
10 and governmental entities that provide early childhood services; and (3) identify
11 and make certain recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature and certain
12 other persons and governmental entities relating to early childhood services.
13 **Section 1** further requires: (1) each agency, board, commission, department,
14 officer, employee or agent of this State or a local government to provide the Office
15 with certain assistance; and (2) the Office to submit a report annually to the
16 Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau regarding the
17 activities of the Office and any recommendations for improvements to the early
18 childhood system in this State.



19 Existing law authorizes the Governor, within the limits of available money, to
20 employ such persons as he or she deems necessary to provide an appropriate staff
21 for the Office of the Governor, including, without limitation, certain other offices
22 that are created within the Office of the Governor. (NRS 223.085) **Section 2** of this
23 bill authorizes the Governor, within the limits of available money, to also employ
24 such persons as he or she deems necessary to provide appropriate staff for the
25 Office of Early Childhood Systems.

26 Existing law prescribes the number of legislative measures which may be
27 requested by various departments, agencies and other entities of this State for each
28 regular session of the Legislature. (NRS 218D.100-218D.220) **Section 2.4** of this
29 bill authorizes the Office of Early Childhood Systems to request, for each regular
30 session of the Legislature, the drafting of not more than 1 legislative measure which
31 relates to matters within the scope of the Office. **Section 2.8** of this bill makes a
32 conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **section 2.4** in the Nevada
33 Revised Statutes.

34 **Section 3** of this bill makes an appropriation for the personnel, travel, operating
35 and equipment costs for the Office of Early Childhood Systems to perform its
36 duties.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 223 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. The Office of Early Childhood Systems is hereby created in*
4 *the Office of the Governor.*

5 *2. The Governor shall appoint a person from a list of three*
6 *persons recommended to the Governor by the Nevada Early*
7 *Childhood Advisory Council established pursuant to NRS*
8 *432A.076 to serve as the Director of the Office of Early Childhood*
9 *Systems. The Director is not in the classified or unclassified*
10 *service of the State and serves at the pleasure of the Governor.*

11 *3. The Office of Early Childhood Systems may accept gifts,*
12 *grants and donations to support its duties.*

13 *4. The Office of Early Childhood Systems shall:*

14 *(a) Analyze whether the existing early childhood system meets*
15 *the needs of this State;*

16 *(b) Evaluate the effectiveness of the relationships between*
17 *persons and governmental entities that provide early childhood*
18 *services, including, without limitation, the Department of Health*
19 *and Human Services, the Department of Education, the State*
20 *Department of Agriculture, the Nevada System of Higher*
21 *Education, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of*
22 *Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, the Nevada Early*
23 *Childhood Advisory Council established pursuant to NRS*
24 *432A.076, the Advisory Board on Maternal and Child Health*
25 *created pursuant to NRS 442.133, nonprofit organizations,*



1 *providers of early childhood learning and providers of health*
2 *care; and*

3 *(c) Identify and make recommendations to the Governor, the*
4 *Legislature and the persons and governmental entities described*
5 *in paragraph (b) relating to:*

6 *(1) Unmet needs for comprehensive early childhood*
7 *services, including, without limitation, early learning, maternal*
8 *and early childhood health, mental and behavioral health, safety*
9 *and economic security;*

10 *(2) Opportunities to obtain federal or private funding to*
11 *support comprehensive early childhood services in this State;*

12 *(3) Ways in which to improve coordination between state*
13 *and local governmental entities, providers of early learning,*
14 *providers of health care and parents and other family members;*

15 *(4) Policies, practices and funding mechanisms to*
16 *maximize efficiency in the delivery of early childhood services;*

17 *(5) Opportunities to integrate parents and other family*
18 *members in leadership and decision-making roles in the early*
19 *childhood system;*

20 *(6) Strategies to address disparities in equitable access to*
21 *early childhood services and programs; and*

22 *(7) Development and implementation of an early childhood*
23 *integrated data system.*

24 *5. Each agency, board, commission, department, officer,*
25 *employee or agent of this State or a local government of this State*
26 *shall provide the Office of Early Childhood Systems or any*
27 *representative of the Office such assistance as the functions and*
28 *operations of the Office may require if that assistance is within the*
29 *scope of duties of the person or entity.*

30 *6. On or before December 1 of each year, the Director of the*
31 *Office of Early Childhood Systems shall submit a report to the*
32 *Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau*
33 *for transmittal to the Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in*
34 *session, to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Government*
35 *Affairs. The report must include, without limitation, a summary of*
36 *the activities of the Office of Early Childhood Systems and any*
37 *recommendations identified pursuant to paragraph (c) of*
38 *subsection 4 for improvements to the early childhood system in*
39 *this State, established in cooperation with the Nevada Early*
40 *Childhood Advisory Council.*

41 *7. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise*
42 *requires:*

43 *(a) "Early childhood" means the period of a child's life*
44 *beginning with the prenatal period and through 8 years of age.*



1 (b) *“Early childhood system” means the governmental*
2 *structure of the State and its political subdivisions that provide*
3 *early childhood services relating to nutrition, health care, mental*
4 *and behavioral health, protection and play and early learning that*
5 *stimulate a child’s physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and*
6 *emotional development.*

7 **Sec. 2.** NRS 223.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 223.085 1. The Governor may, within the limits of available
9 money, employ such persons as he or she deems necessary to
10 provide an appropriate staff for the Office of the Governor,
11 including, without limitation, the Office of Economic Development,
12 the Office of Federal Assistance, the Office of Science, Innovation
13 and Technology, the Public Health Resource Office, *the Office of*
14 *Early Childhood Systems* and the Governor’s mansion. Except as
15 otherwise provided by specific statute, such employees are not in the
16 classified or unclassified service of the State and, except as
17 otherwise provided in NRS 231.043 and 231.047, serve at the
18 pleasure of the Governor.

19 2. Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, the
20 Governor shall:

21 (a) Determine the salaries and benefits of the persons employed
22 pursuant to subsection 1, within limits of money available for that
23 purpose; and

24 (b) Adopt such rules and policies as he or she deems appropriate
25 to establish the duties and employment rights of the persons
26 employed pursuant to subsection 1.

27 3. The Governor may:

28 (a) Appoint a Chief Information Officer of the State; or

29 (b) Designate the Administrator as the Chief Information Officer
30 of the State.

31 ➤ If the Administrator is so appointed, the Administrator shall serve
32 as the Chief Information Officer of the State without additional
33 compensation.

34 4. As used in this section, “Administrator” means the
35 Administrator of the Division of Enterprise Information Technology
36 Services of the Department of Administration.

37 **Sec. 2.4.** Chapter 218D of NRS is hereby amended by adding
38 thereto a new section to read as follows:

39 *1. For a regular session, the Office of Early Childhood*
40 *Systems created by section 1 of this act may request the drafting of*
41 *not more than 1 legislative measure which relates to matters*
42 *within the scope of the Office. The request must be submitted to*
43 *the Legislative Counsel on or before September 1 preceding the*
44 *regular session.*



1 **2. A request made pursuant to this section must be on a form**
2 **prescribed by the Legislative Counsel. A legislative measure**
3 **requested pursuant to this section must be prefiled on or before**
4 **the third Wednesday in November preceding the regular session. A**
5 **legislative measure that is not prefiled on or before that day shall**
6 **be deemed withdrawn.**

7 **Sec. 2.8.** NRS 218D.050 is hereby amended to read as
8 follows:

9 218D.050 1. The Legislative Counsel and the Legal Division
10 shall not prepare or assist in the preparation of legislative measures
11 for or during a regular session unless:

12 (a) Authorized by NRS 218D.100 to 218D.220, inclusive, **and**
13 **section 2.4 of this act**, another specific statute, a joint rule or a
14 concurrent resolution; or

15 (b) Directed by the Legislature or the Legislative Commission.

16 2. The Legislative Counsel and the Legal Division shall not
17 prepare or assist in the preparation of legislative measures for or
18 during a special session unless:

19 (a) Authorized by a joint rule or concurrent resolution; or

20 (b) Directed by the Legislature or the Legislative Commission.

21 3. During a regular or special session, the Legislative Counsel
22 and the Legal Division shall provide the Legislature with legal,
23 technical and other appropriate services concerning any legislative
24 measure properly before the Legislature or any committee of the
25 Legislature for consideration.

26 **Sec. 3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
27 General Fund to the Office of Early Childhood Systems within the
28 Office of the Governor created by section 1 of this act for personnel,
29 travel, operating and equipment the following sums:

30 For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024..... \$148,667

31 For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025..... \$150,719

32 2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1
33 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be
34 committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal
35 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
36 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
37 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
38 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
39 September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively, by
40 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
41 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and
42 must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
43 September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively.



1 **Sec. 3.5.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
2 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
3 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

4 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.



