



**Executive Order 2014-16**

**ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S TASKFORCE ON  
INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, all Nevadans, including individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, should be able to work in an appropriate setting that will allow each individual to offer their strengths to the workforce landscape, improve their quality of life, earn a competitive wage, and contribute to their families, communities, and the economy;

**WHEREAS**, individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities continue to experience some of the lowest workforce participation rates, thus creating a need for person-centered planning to support and promote employment opportunities and outcomes for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, and to create a more diversified, inclusive and integrated workforce;

**WHEREAS**, local communities, businesses, and the state can benefit from developing and engaging in a more holistic and strategic effort to help improve transitions, employment outcomes and provide choices that will instill individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families with a sense of value, pride and purpose;

**WHEREAS**, many agencies provide outreach, education and support for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, and there exists a need to promote greater cooperation, understanding and interaction between these agencies so as to realize improved transitions and life outcomes for each individual and their families;

**WHEREAS**, my administration intends to improve cooperation and collaboration among state agencies, community leaders, non-profit organizations and businesses to enhance and strengthen supported employment systems, education, training, and services for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, thereby encouraging their success, expanding their ability to make informed choices, and promoting a more integrated workforce;

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities has made a series of recommendations in its Integrated Employment Position Statement;

**WHEREAS**, the federal government has made a series of recommendations for providing opportunities and choices in the workforce for those with disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, federal, state and local governments, public and private businesses, service providers and organizations can do more to identify and pursue funding resources, provide information, training, education, employment opportunities and support services to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, I hereby direct and order:

1. The Governor's Taskforce on Integrated Employment ("Taskforce") is hereby established.
2. The Taskforce shall be responsible for examining and evaluating current employment programs, resources, funding, available training and employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, and shall provide a report to the Governor, on or before July 1, 2015, setting forth their findings as well as a three, five and ten-year strategic plan for creating a more integrated

workforce and expanding competitive employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

3. The Taskforce shall:

- a. Review existing methods for identifying students with intellectual/developmental disabilities, the implementation of vocational assessments, and the delivery of employment-related planning and training services, to determine their effectiveness and identify any deficiencies therein;
- b. Identify methods for expanding the delivery of training, vocational services and supports to students and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities;
- c. Examine the rate setting process, means of achieving competitive wages, and explore how to address and achieve placements that are in the highest and best interest of the individual;
- d. Examine available state and federal funding opportunities that would support or develop workforce employment opportunities, assess the availability of alternative funding sources and whether the state and/or federal funds are being utilized to their fullest potential;
- e. Identify opportunities for employment positions within the State system for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and any barriers to achieving successful integration;
- f. Identify opportunities for improving collaboration and partnerships between state agencies, private and non-profit businesses employing individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities;
- g. Examine findings from the United States Department of Justice and interpret how Nevada is addressing these issues;
- h. Examine whether individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, or their families, who are participating in community training centers or assisted services are provided sufficient information to make informed decisions concerning training, services and employment opportunities, and provide recommendations for improvements or modifications to these programs or services;
- i. Evaluate the effectiveness, demand, and long-term need for "day habilitation" and sheltered workshops in community training centers;
- j. Identify successful educational programs or vocational training opportunities and their delivery systems, operating in this state or other states, that successfully prepare youth or adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities for careers and help each individual realize their fullest potential; and
- k. Review and develop opportunities that allow families to plan for transition services in the K-12 setting.

4. The Taskforce shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Taskforce shall include no more than 17 members and be composed of the following:

- a. At least one representative from the Department of Health and Human Services;
- b. At least three representatives from education;
- c. At least two representatives from transportation service providers;
- d. At least one representative from the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation;

- e. At least one representative from the Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center;
  - f. At least three representatives from the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD), which representatives shall be selected by the Council;
  - g. At least three representatives from community training centers;
  - h. At least one individual, or parent of an individual, with an intellectual or developmental disability that is not currently on the GCDD; and
  - i. Members whom the Governor deems necessary.
5. The Taskforce shall be headed by a chair and vice-chair to be appointed by the Governor.
  6. Members of the Taskforce shall receive no compensation for their service.
  7. The Taskforce may call on any other service providers or other professionals with expertise in the issues surrounding employment services for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities.
  8. The Taskforce shall establish procedural bylaws to aid in the performance of its duties.
  9. The Taskforce shall meet as often as necessary to act in the best interest of the state.
  10. Any meetings conducted by the Taskforce shall be subject to the Open Meeting Law, as codified in Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 241.
  11. All records documenting the Taskforce's activities shall be retained and transferred to the Nevada State Archives for permanent retention in accordance with the state record retention policy.
  12. The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services and the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation shall provide joint administrative support. The Division may hire or retain contractors, sub-contractors, advisors, consultants, and/or agents, and may make and enter into contracts as necessary, in accordance with relevant statutes, rules, and procedures of state regulations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 21st day of July, in the year two thousand fourteen.

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Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

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Secretary of State

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Deputy Secretary of State