

Assembly Health and Human Services
Chair Assembly Member Brown-May
Committee Members
April 7, 2025
Re: AB519

For the record, I'm Connie McMullen, testifying on behalf of the Personal Care Association of Nevada in favor of AB519. PCAN is in support of moving personal care agencies (PCA) to a new chapter from Chapter 449, of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC).

Providers of PCAs are listed in Chapter 449, Medical Facilities and Other Related Entities, under the category of *Facilities for the Dependent*. But PCA is not a Facility Provider but is a **Service Provider**.

Since the industry's inception into NRS, PCA has been listed under Facility for the Dependent, however, personal care is not offered to those in the same setting as a hospital or nursing home or other facilities which provide care in a brick-and-mortar setting. PCA offers non-medical in-home care services by caregivers, supervised and trained by a licensed agency under HCQC for the aged and disabled in their own home.

PCA caregivers are trained, background checked, fingerprinted and provide non-medical Activity of Daily Living services, not skilled care. Regulations regarding training such as cultural competency, infection control, and even immigration that apply to hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, and home health agencies, often do not apply or do so with limited application.

PCAN believes the creation of a separate chapter for the non-medical, direct care workforce would more appropriately apply and should be extended to include the Intermediary Service Organization (ISO) and Employment Agency, both of whom work with placement of caregivers in the home like the personal care agency. All do the same service, but with a different approach. PCAN favors the creation of a new chapter, but with retention of the exact regulations that exist in Chapter 449.

The need for this change is logical, coming at a time of increasing demand, caregiver shortages, and the rising costs of providing care, all of which make it more difficult to connect people to services provided in the home. Moving PCA, ISO and Employment Agency to a new chapter would give the home care industry a better chance to expand and provide better care for the consumer. We ask that the Assembly Health and Human Services Committee approve AB519. And we thank you for your consideration.