



## **2021 Legislative Session Areas of Interest**

### **Public Health Improvement Fund**

Continuing an idea from the 2019 session, we will work with our local and state counterparts to identify opportunities to bring legislation for a dedicated funding stream to build a framework for public health infrastructure and capacity. Because of the budget situation, there is no bill draft currently but we are hopeful to continue to weave the need for this fund into the conversation.

### **Health Workforce Data Collection**

This bill, advanced by the Interim Health Committee, will require licensing boards to collect certain information from the state's health workforce to better identify potential care gaps and assess future network adequacy.

### **STD Testing**

The Interim Health Committee has advanced legislation articulating when pregnant women should be tested for syphilis, based on recommendations from a CDC visit in response to Nevada's currently high rates.

### **Vaping Bill Defense**

We successfully supported SB263 in the 2019 Legislative session which updated provisions around vaping, including bringing vaping into the existing tobacco taxing structure. \$2.5 million for tobacco control and prevention was allocated as a result of this legislation. However, the vaping industry will be actively working to make changes to the law and we will be prepared to defend the legislation.

### **Tobacco 21**

This will be a bill carried by the Attorney General's office that will update provisions related to the sale of tobacco. It is being updated based on the federal Tobacco 21 Legislation that passed last year.

### **Medicaid Enhancements**

The Health District will monitor all Medicaid legislation and support changes that will enhance access for patients and reimbursements for providers, such as legislation that has been advanced by the Interim Health Committee to allow for Community Health Workers to be reimbursed.

### **Data Collection for Students**

SB2 has been introduced to remove the current requirement that height and weight be collected by certain school districts. Public health advocates, including SNHD, worked in the 2017 session to secure the current data collection structure and will articulate why the data is useful in opposing the change.

## **Other Items of Note**

### **Telehealth**

SB5 has been introduced governing telehealth, insurance and access to telehealth.

### **All Payer Claims Database**

Legislation advanced by the Patient Protection Commission, SB40, would establish an all-payer claims database of information relating to health insurance claims resulting from medical, dental or pharmacy benefits provided in Nevada, including private and public health plans. The purpose of data generated by this database is to improve transparency on health care costs and utilization to inform health system decision making and to inform health policymaking in Nevada.

### **HIV Testing**

Senator Harris has sponsored a bill to update provisions regarding HIV testing, which includes that all patients 15 years and older be offered an HIV test. It also expands upon education for positive patients and which providers should provide counseling. Finally, it requires positive patients to report the source of their infection.

### **Classic Vehicle Plate Reform**

Assemblyman Watts will be carrying legislation to improve air quality by updating the classic vehicle laws. The current structure encourages those with older cars that can't pass a smog test to seek classic vehicle status as a loophole.