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AGENDA ITEM

- Action Item
- Information Only

Date: July 28, 2022

Item Number: IV.V

Title: Language Access Plan

SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of PEBP’s Language Access Plan required under NRS 232.0081, which was implemented under Senate Bill 318 during the 2021 Legislative Session (<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7943/Overview>).

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Office of New Americans (ONA), working with the Nevada Initiative for Language Access (NILA), has spearheaded helping Executive Branch agencies in completing a Language Access Plan (LAP). This includes frameworks and recommended verbiage. The LAP helps ensure that Limited-English Proficiency (LEP) Nevadans have the access that they need from PEBP.

COMPLIANCE

PEBP is subject to several laws, including, but not limited to, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). These federal laws require various degrees of language access for PEBP constituents such as plain language, translation, language that is linguistically and culturally appropriate, etc.

Senate Bill 318 does not require agencies to implement the LAP, but only to develop and revise the plan. This allows the Legislature to consider the full funding required for implementation in

2023. The plan includes a survey of existing language access needs, services, training, and certifications needed.

THE LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN

The attached Language Access Plan is PEBP's initial plan to ensure compliance with SB 318. Section 7 of this bill requires each agency of the Executive Department of the State Government to develop and biennially revise a language access plan. Additionally, the bill requires PEBP to include the funding necessary to carry out a language access plan in the proposed agency budget. Currently, the proposed budget to enact the language access plan is \$522,580.00.

The language access plan is attached.