

NEVADA GIRLS STATE
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Memorializes the 2013 session of the Nevada Legislature to enact legislation that will extend the age of a child wherein the adoptive parents may apply for state aid to cover medical expenses to 18 years, during which behavioral, mental, or physical conditions may arise.

WHEREAS, At present, adoptive families may only receive state aid until their date of finalization, which is usually within six months of the child being placed; and

WHEREAS, Most medical issues related to substance abuse do not arise until the adoption of the child is already finalized at six months old; and

WHEREAS, Drug testing immediately following the birth can indicate that the child's birth mother was under the influence of a substance, which can link future behavioral or medical issues to said substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, More families would be inclined to adopt children if medical coverage was extended; and

WHEREAS, Families may not be as financially stable at the time of necessary medical care as at the time of finalization; and

WHEREAS, Families would not be further financially hindered by medical costs in addition to the initial costs of adoption; and

WHEREAS, Funding may be provided through state or county resources; and

WHEREAS, Other states have already enacted similar legislation and have had satisfactory results; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GIRLS STATE OF NEVADA, assembled in Carson City on July 1, 2011, that the 2013 session of the Nevada Legislature is hereby memorialized to enact legislation that will extend the age of a child wherein the adoptive parents may apply for state aid to cover medical expenses to 18 years, during which many behavioral, mental, or physical conditions may arise.