ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1-ASSEMBLYWOMAN PARNELL

PREFILED JANUARY 11, 2001

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions regarding school nurses. (BDR 34-135)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

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Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to schools; revises provisions relating to the qualifications and duties of certain school nurses; revises provisions relating to nursing services provided to certain pupils; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA. REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 391.207 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.207 1. A school district shall not employ a person to serve as a school nurse unless he holds an endorsement to serve as a school nurse issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission.

- The provision of nursing services in a school district must be under the direction and supervision of a chief administrative nurse who:
 - (a) Satisfies the requirements set forth in NRS 632.240; and
- (b) Holds an endorsement to serve as a school nurse issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 391.208 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- A school nurse shall, for each school at which he is 391.208 [employed:] responsible for providing nursing services:
- 1. Ensure that each pupil enrolled in the school has been immunized in accordance with, is exempt from or has otherwise complied with, the requirements set forth in NRS 392.435 to 392.446, inclusive.
- Assess and evaluate the general health and physical development of the pupils enrolled in the school to identify those pupils who have physical 18 or mental conditions that impede their ability to learn.
- 19 3. Report the results of an evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 20
 - (a) A parent or guardian of the pupil;

- (b) Each administrator and teacher directly involved with the education of the pupil; and
- (c) Other professional personnel within the school district who need the information to assist the pupil with his health or education.
- 4. Design and carry out a plan of nursing care for a pupil with special needs which incorporates any plan specified by the pupil's physician or provider of health care, as defined in NRS 629.031, and which is approved by the pupil's parent or guardian. The nursing services provided pursuant to a plan of nursing care must be performed in compliance with chapter 632 of NRS.
- 5. When appropriate, refer a pupil and his parent or guardian to other sources in the community to obtain services necessary for the health of the pupil.
- 6. Interpret medical and nursing information that relates to a pupil's individual educational plan *or individualized accommodation plan* and make recommendations to:
 - (a) Professional personnel directly involved with that pupil; and
 - (b) The parents or guardian of that pupil.

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- **Sec. 3.** NRS 392.420 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.420 1. In each school at which he is [employed.] responsible for providing nursing services, a school nurse shall plan for and carry out, or supervise qualified health personnel in carrying out, a separate and careful observation and examination of every child who is regularly enrolled in a grade specified by the board of trustees or superintendent of schools of the school district to determine whether the child has scoliosis, any visual or auditory problem, or any gross physical defect. The grades in which the observations and examinations must be carried out are as follows:
- (a) For visual and auditory problems, in at least two grades of the elementary schools, one grade of the middle or junior high schools , and one grade of the high schools; and
- (b) For scoliosis, in at least one grade of schools below the high schools.
- Any person other than a school nurse who performs an observation or examination pursuant to this subsection must be trained by a school nurse to conduct the observation or examination.
- 2. If any child is attending school in a grade above one of the specified grades and has not previously received such an observation and examination, he must be included in the current schedule for observation and examination. Any child who is newly enrolled in the district must be examined for any medical condition for which children in a lower grade are examined.
- 3. A special examination for a possible visual or auditory problem must be provided for any child who:
 - (a) Is enrolled in a special program;
 - (b) Is repeating a grade;
 - (c) Has failed an examination for a visual or auditory problem during the previous s chool year; or
 - (d) Shows in any other way that he may have such a problem.

- 4. The school authorities shall notify the parents or guardian of any child who is found or believed to have a visual or auditory problem, scoliosis [] or any gross physical defect, and shall recommend that appropriate medical attention be secured to correct it.
- 5. In any school district in which state, county or district public health services are available or conveniently obtainable, those services may be used to meet the responsibilities assigned under the provisions of this section. The board of trustees of the school district may employ qualified personnel to perform them. Any nursing services provided by such qualified personnel must be performed in compliance with chapter 632 of NRS.
- 6. Any child must be exempted from the examination if his parents or guardian filed with the teacher a written statement objecting to the examination.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 632.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 632.240 [1.] The provision of nursing services in any system for the delivery of health care must be under the direction and supervision of a chief administrative nurse who is a registered nurse.
- [2. The provisions of this section do not apply to a county school-district whose enrollment is fewer than 35,000 pupils.]
 - **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001.