ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 417-ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE

MARCH 19, 2001

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions concerning admissibility of evidence in certain cases involving domestic violence. (BDR 4-1175)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

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Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to evidence; expanding the circumstances under which expert testimony concerning the effects of domestic violence and evidence of domestic violence are admissible in a criminal proceeding; 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 48.061 is hereby amended to read as follows: 48.061 [Evidence]

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, evidence of domestic violence [as defined in NRS 33.018] and expert testimony concerning the effect of domestic violence, including, without limitation, the effect of physical, emotional or mental abuse, on the beliefs, behavior and perception of the [person alleging] alleged victim of the domestic violence that is offered by the prosecution or defense is admissible in [chief and in rebuttal,] a criminal proceeding for any relevant purpose, including, without limitation, when determining:

[1.] (a) Whether a [person] defendant is excepted from criminal liability pursuant to subsection 7 of NRS 194.010, to show the state of mind of the defendant.

[2.] (b) Whether a person defendant in accordance with NRS 200.200 has killed another in self-defense, toward the establishment of the legal defense.

- 2. Expert testimony concerning the effect of domestic violence may not be offered against a defendant pursuant to subsection 1 to prove the occurrence of an act which forms the basis of a criminal charge against the defendant.
- 3. As used in this section, "domestic violence" means the commission of any act described in NRS 33.018.



- Sec. 2. The amendatory provisions of this act do not apply to an action filed or a proceeding commenced before October 1, 2002.
 Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on October 1, 2002.
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