

(REPRINTED WITH ADOPTED AMENDMENTS)  
FIRST REPRINT S.B. 366

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SENATE BILL NO. 366—SENATOR TOWNSEND

MARCH 16, 2001

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JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE

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Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Enacts provisions governing establishment by district court of program for treatment of mentally ill offenders. (BDR 1-1006)

FISCAL NOTE:   Effect on Local Government: Yes.  
                      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.

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AN ACT relating to mental health; providing for the establishment by a district court of a program for the treatment of mentally ill offenders; authorizing justices' courts and municipal courts to transfer original jurisdiction of certain cases to the district court for the purpose of assigning offenders to the program of treatment; enacting various provisions pertaining to the program of treatment; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1     **Section 1.** NRS 4.370 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2     4.370 1. Except as ~~limited by~~ ***otherwise provided in*** subsection 2,  
3     justices' courts have jurisdiction of the following civil actions and  
4     proceedings and no others except as provided by specific statute:  
5     (a) In actions arising on contract for the recovery of money only, if the  
6     sum claimed, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$7,500.  
7     (b) In actions for damages for injury to the person, or for taking,  
8     detaining or injuring personal property, or for injury to real property where  
9     no issue is raised by the verified answer of the defendant involving the title  
10    to or boundaries of the real property, if the damage claimed does not  
11    exceed \$7,500.  
12    (c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (1) in actions for a fine,  
13    penalty or forfeiture not exceeding \$7,500, given by statute or the  
14    ordinance of a county, city or town, where no issue is raised by the answer  
15    involving the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine.  
16    (d) In actions upon bonds or undertakings conditioned for the payment  
17    of money, if the sum claimed does not exceed \$7,500, though the penalty



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1 may exceed that sum. Bail bonds and other undertakings posted in criminal  
2 matters may be forfeited regardless of amount.

3 (e) In actions to recover the possession of personal property, if the value  
4 of the property does not exceed \$7,500.

5 (f) To take and enter judgment on the confession of a defendant, when  
6 the amount confessed, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$7,500.

7 (g) Of actions for the possession of lands and tenements where the  
8 relation of landlord and tenant exists, when damages claimed do not exceed  
9 \$7,500 or when no damages are claimed.

10 (h) Of actions when the possession of lands and tenements has been  
11 unlawfully or fraudulently obtained or withheld, when damages claimed do  
12 not exceed \$7,500 or when no damages are claimed.

13 (i) Of suits for the collection of taxes, where the amount of the tax sued  
14 for does not exceed \$7,500.

15 (j) Of actions for the enforcement of mechanics' liens, where the  
16 amount of the lien sought to be enforced, exclusive of interest, does not  
17 exceed \$7,500.

18 (k) Of actions for the enforcement of liens of owners of facilities for  
19 storage, where the amount of the lien sought to be enforced, exclusive of  
20 interest, does not exceed \$7,500.

21 (l) In actions for a fine imposed for a violation of NRS 484.757.

22 (m) Except in a judicial district that includes a county whose population  
23 is 100,000 or more, in any action for the issuance of a temporary or  
24 extended order for protection against domestic violence.

25 (n) In small claims actions under the provisions of chapter 73 of NRS.

26 (o) In actions to contest the validity of liens on mobile homes or  
27 manufactured homes.

28 (p) In any action pursuant to NRS 200.591 for the issuance of a  
29 protective order against a person alleged to be committing the crime of  
30 stalking, aggravated stalking or harassment.

31 2. The jurisdiction conferred by this section does not extend to civil  
32 actions, other than for forcible entry or detainer, in which the title of real  
33 property or mining claims or questions affecting the boundaries of land are  
34 involved.

35 3. Justices' courts have jurisdiction of all misdemeanors and no other  
36 criminal offenses except as otherwise provided by specific statute. *Upon  
37 approval of the district court, a justice's court may transfer original  
38 jurisdiction of a misdemeanor to the district court for the purpose of  
39 assigning an offender to a program established pursuant to section 5 of  
40 this act.*

41 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5 and 6, in criminal  
42 cases the jurisdiction of justices of the peace extends to the limits of their  
43 respective counties.

44 5. In the case of any arrest made by a member of the Nevada highway  
45 patrol, the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace extends to the limits of  
46 their respective counties and to the limits of all counties which have  
47 common boundaries with their respective counties.



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1 6. Each justice's court has jurisdiction of any violation of a regulation  
2 governing vehicular traffic on an airport within the township in which the  
3 court is established.

4 **Sec. 2.** NRS 5.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 5.050 1. Municipal courts have jurisdiction of civil actions or  
6 proceedings:

7 (a) For the violation of any ordinance of their respective cities.

8 (b) To prevent or abate a nuisance within the limits of their respective  
9 cities.

10 2. The municipal courts have jurisdiction of all misdemeanors  
11 committed in violation of the ordinances of their respective cities. *Upon*  
12 *approval of the district court, a municipal court may transfer original*  
13 *jurisdiction of a misdemeanor to the district court for the purpose of*  
14 *assigning an offender to a program established pursuant to section 5 of*  
15 *this act.*

16 3. The municipal courts have jurisdiction of:

17 (a) Any action for the collection of taxes or assessments levied for city  
18 purposes, when the principal sum thereof does not exceed \$2,500.

19 (b) Actions to foreclose liens in the name of the city for the nonpayment  
20 of those taxes or assessments when the principal sum claimed does not  
21 exceed \$2,500.

22 (c) Actions for the breach of any bond given by any officer or person to  
23 or for the use or benefit of the city, and of any action for damages to which  
24 the city is a party, and upon all forfeited recognizances given to or for the  
25 use or benefit of the city, and upon all bonds given on appeals from the  
26 municipal court in any of the cases named in this section, when the  
27 principal sum claimed does not exceed \$2,500.

28 (d) Actions for the recovery of personal property belonging to the city,  
29 when the value thereof does not exceed \$2,500.

30 (e) Actions by the city for the collection of any damages, debts or other  
31 obligations when the amount claimed, exclusive of costs or attorney's fees,  
32 or both if allowed, does not exceed \$2,500.

33 4. Nothing contained in subsection 3 gives the municipal court  
34 jurisdiction to determine any such cause when it appears from the  
35 pleadings that the validity of any tax, assessment or levy, or title to real  
36 property, is necessarily an issue in the cause, in which case the court shall  
37 certify the cause to the district court in like manner and with the same  
38 effect as provided by law for certification of causes by justices' courts.

39 **Sec. 3.** Chapter 176A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto  
40 the provisions set forth as sections 4 to 8, inclusive, of this act.

41 **Sec. 4.** *"Mental illness" means an organic disorder of the brain or a*  
42 *clinically significant disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation,*  
43 *memory or behavior which is listed in the most recent edition of the*  
44 *clinical manual of the International Classification of Diseases, ICD-9-*  
45 *CM, code range 290 to 302.99, inclusive, or 306 to 316, inclusive, or the*  
46 *corresponding code in the most recent edition of the American*  
47 *Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental*  
48 *Disorders, DSM-MD, Axes I, II or III, and which seriously limits the*  
49 *capacity of a person to function in the primary aspects of daily living,*



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1 including, without limitation, personal relations, living arrangements,  
2 employment and recreation.

3 **Sec. 5.** *A court may establish an appropriate program for the*  
4 *treatment of mental illness to which it may assign a defendant pursuant*  
5 *to section 7 of this act. The assignment must include the terms and*  
6 *conditions for successful completion of the program and provide for*  
7 *progress reports at intervals set by the court to ensure that the defendant*  
8 *is making satisfactory progress towards completion of the program.*

9 **Sec. 6.** *1. A justice's court or a municipal court may, upon*  
10 *approval of the district court, transfer original jurisdiction to the district*  
11 *court of a case involving an eligible defendant.*

12 *2. As used in this section, "eligible defendant" means a person who:*

13 *(a) Has not tendered a plea of guilty, guilty but mentally ill or nolo*  
14 *contendere to, or been found guilty of, an offense that is a misdemeanor;*

15 *(b) Appears to suffer from mental illness; and*

16 *(c) Would benefit from assignment to a program established pursuant*  
17 *to section 5 of this act.*

18 **Sec. 7.** *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if a*  
19 *defendant who suffers from mental illness tenders a plea of guilty, guilty*  
20 *but mentally ill or nolo contendere to, or is found guilty of, any offense*  
21 *for which the suspension of sentence or the granting of probation is not*  
22 *prohibited by statute, the court may, without entering a judgment of*  
23 *conviction and with the consent of the defendant, suspend further*  
24 *proceedings and place the defendant on probation upon terms and*  
25 *conditions that must include attendance and successful completion of a*  
26 *program established pursuant to section 5 of this act.*

27 *2. If the offense committed by the defendant involved the use or*  
28 *threatened use of force or violence or if the defendant was previously*  
29 *convicted in this state or in any other jurisdiction of a felony that*  
30 *involved the use or threatened use of force or violence, the court may not*  
31 *assign the defendant to the program unless the prosecuting attorney*  
32 *stipulates to the assignment.*

33 *3. Upon violation of a term or condition:*

34 *(a) The court may enter a judgment of conviction and proceed as*  
35 *provided in the section pursuant to which the defendant was charged.*

36 *(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (e) of subsection 2 of*  
37 *NRS 193.130, the court may order the defendant to the custody of the*  
38 *department of prisons if the offense is punishable by imprisonment in the*  
39 *state prison.*

40 *4. Upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions, the court shall*  
41 *discharge the defendant and dismiss the proceedings against him.*  
42 *Discharge and dismissal pursuant to this section is without adjudication*  
43 *of guilt and is not a conviction for purposes of this section or for*  
44 *purposes of employment, civil rights or any statute or regulation or*  
45 *license or questionnaire or for any other public or private purpose, but is*  
46 *a conviction for the purpose of additional penalties imposed for second*  
47 *or subsequent convictions or the setting of bail. Discharge and dismissal*  
48 *restores the defendant, in the contemplation of the law, to the status*  
49 *occupied before the arrest, indictment or information. The defendant*



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1 *may not be held thereafter under any law to be guilty of perjury or*  
2 *otherwise giving a false statement by reason of failure to recite or*  
3 *acknowledge that arrest, indictment, information or trial in response to*  
4 *an inquiry made of him for any purpose.*

5 **Sec. 8.** 1. *Three years after a defendant is discharged from*  
6 *probation pursuant to section 7 of this act, the court shall order sealed all*  
7 *documents, papers and exhibits in the defendant's record, minute book*  
8 *entries and entries on dockets, and other documents relating to the case*  
9 *in the custody of such other agencies and officers as are named in the*  
10 *court's order if the defendant fulfills the terms and conditions imposed*  
11 *by the court and the division. The court shall order those records sealed*  
12 *without a hearing unless the division petitions the court, for good cause*  
13 *shown, not to seal the records and requests a hearing thereon.*

14 2. *If the court orders sealed the record of a defendant discharged*  
15 *pursuant to section 7 of this act, the court shall send a copy of the order*  
16 *to each agency or officer named in the order. Each such agency or*  
17 *officer shall notify the court in writing of its compliance with the order.*

18 **Sec. 9.** NRS 176A.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
19 176A.010 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
20 requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 176A.020 to 176A.080,  
21 inclusive, *and section 4 of this act*, have the meanings ascribed to them in  
22 those sections.

23 **Sec. 10.** NRS 176A.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 176A.500 1. The period of probation or suspension of sentence may  
25 be indeterminate or may be fixed by the court and may at any time be  
26 extended or terminated by the court, but the period, including any  
27 extensions thereof, must not be more than:

28 (a) Three years for a:

29 (1) Gross misdemeanor; or

30 (2) Suspension of sentence pursuant to NRS 453.3363 ~~§~~ or *section 7*  
31 *of this act; or*

32 (b) Five years for a felony.

33 2. At any time during probation or suspension of sentence, the court  
34 may issue a warrant for violating any of the conditions of probation or  
35 suspension of sentence and cause the defendant to be arrested. Except for  
36 the purpose of giving a dishonorable discharge from probation, and except  
37 as otherwise provided in this subsection, the time during which a warrant  
38 for violating any of the conditions of probation is in effect is not part of the  
39 period of probation. If the warrant is canceled or probation is reinstated, the  
40 court may include any amount of that time as part of the period of  
41 probation.

42 3. Any parole and probation officer or any peace officer with power to  
43 arrest may arrest a probationer without a warrant, or may deputize any  
44 other officer with power to arrest to do so by giving him a written  
45 statement setting forth that the probationer has, in the judgment of the  
46 parole and probation officer, violated the conditions of probation. Except  
47 as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the parole and probation officer, or  
48 the peace officer, after making an arrest shall present to the detaining  
49 authorities, if any, a statement of the charges against the probationer. The



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1 parole and probation officer shall at once notify the court which granted  
2 probation of the arrest and detention or residential confinement of the  
3 probationer and shall submit a report in writing showing in what manner  
4 the probationer has violated the conditions of probation.

5 4. A parole and probation officer or a peace officer may immediately  
6 release from custody without any further proceedings any person he arrests  
7 without a warrant for violating a condition of probation if the parole and  
8 probation officer or peace officer determines that there is no probable  
9 cause to believe that the person violated the condition of probation.

10 **Sec. 11.** NRS 179.245 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 179.245 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 and NRS  
12 453.3365, *and section 8 of this act*, a person who has been convicted of:

13 (a) Any felony may, after 15 years from the date of his conviction or, if  
14 he is imprisoned, from the date of his release from actual custody;

15 (b) Any gross misdemeanor may, after 10 years from the date of his  
16 conviction or release from custody;

17 (c) A violation of NRS 484.379 other than a felony, or a battery which  
18 constitutes domestic violence pursuant to NRS 33.018 other than a felony  
19 may, after 7 years from the date of his conviction or release from custody;  
20 or

21 (d) Any other misdemeanor may, after 5 years from the date of his  
22 conviction or release from custody,  
23 petition the court in which the conviction was obtained for the sealing of  
24 all records relating to the conviction.

25 2. A petition filed pursuant to subsection 1 must be accompanied by  
26 current, verified records of the petitioner's criminal history received from:

27 (a) The central repository for Nevada records of criminal history; and

28 (b) The local law enforcement agency of the city or county in which the  
29 conviction was entered.

30 3. Upon receiving a petition pursuant to this section, the court shall  
31 notify:

32 (a) The prosecuting attorney for the county; or

33 (b) If the person was convicted in a municipal court, the prosecuting  
34 attorney for the city.

35 The prosecuting attorney and any person having relevant evidence may  
36 testify and present evidence at the hearing on the petition.

37 4. If, after the hearing, the court finds that, in the period prescribed in  
38 subsection 1, the petitioner has not been arrested, except for minor moving  
39 or standing traffic violations, the court may order sealed all records of the  
40 conviction which are in the custody of the court, of another court in the  
41 State of Nevada or of a public or private agency, company or official in the  
42 State of Nevada, and may also order all such criminal identification records  
43 of the petitioner returned to the file of the court where the proceeding was  
44 commenced from, including, but not limited to, the Federal Bureau of  
45 Investigation, the California *bureau of* identification and ~~investigation~~  
46 ~~bureau,~~ *information*, sheriffs' offices and all other law enforcement  
47 agencies reasonably known by either the petitioner or the court to have  
48 possession of such records.



1 5. A person may not petition the court to seal records relating to a  
2 conviction of a crime against a child or a sexual offense.

3 6. As used in this section:

4 (a) "Crime against a child" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS  
5 179D.210.

6 (b) "Sexual offense" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 179D.410.

7 **Sec. 12.** NRS 179.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 179.275 Where the court orders the sealing of a record pursuant to  
9 NRS 179.245, 179.255 or 453.3365, *or section 8 of this act*, a copy of the  
10 order must be sent to:

11 1. The central repository for Nevada records of criminal history; and

12 2. Each public or private company, agency or official named in the  
13 order, and that person shall seal the records in his custody which relate to  
14 the matters contained in the order, shall advise the court of his compliance,  
15 and shall then seal the order.

16 **Sec. 13.** NRS 179.285 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 179.285 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 179.301, if the court  
18 orders a record sealed pursuant to NRS 179.245, 179.255 or 453.3365, *or*  
19 *section 8 of this act*, all proceedings recounted in the record are deemed  
20 never to have occurred, and the person to whom it pertains may properly  
21 answer accordingly to any inquiry concerning the arrest, conviction or  
22 acquittal and the events and proceedings relating to the arrest, conviction or  
23 acquittal.

24 **Sec. 14.** NRS 179.295 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 179.295 1. The person who is the subject of the records that are  
26 sealed pursuant to NRS 179.245, 179.255 or 453.3365 *or section 8 of this*  
27 *act* may petition the court that ordered the records sealed to permit  
28 inspection of the records by a person named in the petition, and the court  
29 may order such inspection. Except as otherwise provided in this section  
30 and NRS 179.301, the court may not order the inspection of the records  
31 under any other circumstances.

32 2. If a person has been arrested, the charges have been dismissed and  
33 the records of the arrest have been sealed, the court may order the  
34 inspection of the records by a prosecuting attorney upon a showing that as  
35 a result of newly discovered evidence, the person has been arrested for the  
36 same or similar offense and that there is sufficient evidence reasonably to  
37 conclude that he will stand trial for the offense.

38 3. The court may, upon the application of a prosecuting attorney or an  
39 attorney representing a defendant in a criminal action, order an inspection  
40 of such records for the purpose of obtaining information relating to persons  
41 who were involved in the incident recorded.

42 **Sec. 15.** The amendatory provisions of this act do not apply to  
43 offenses committed before October 1, 2001.

