

(REPRINTED WITH ADOPTED AMENDMENTS)
FIRST REPRINT **S.B. 484**

SENATE BILL NO. 484—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

MARCH 26, 2001

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Requires Legislative Committee on Health Care to study diversion of patients in need of emergency services and care from hospitals that lack sufficient resources to provide needed services and care. (BDR S-1233)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 health care; requiring the Legislative Committee on Health Care to conduct a study of the diversion of patients in need of emergency services and care from hospitals that lack sufficient resources to provide the emergency services and care needed by those patients; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 WHEREAS, As a result of the extremely rapid increase in the population
2 of the State of Nevada, there currently exists an insufficient number of
3 hospital beds adequately to serve the needs of its residents for the provision
4 of emergency services and care; and

5 WHEREAS, When a hospital has exhausted its ability to provide the beds
6 and staff necessary for the adequate provision of emergency services and
7 care, emergency patients must be diverted to other hospitals; and

8 WHEREAS, The diversion of emergency patients is occurring with
9 alarming frequency in this state, often resulting in lengthy delays before
10 emergency personnel can provide those patients with the emergency
11 services and care they urgently need; and

12 WHEREAS, The diversion of emergency patients appears to be having a
13 significant adverse effect on the delivery and costs of health care services
14 in this state; now, therefore,

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



1 **Section 1.** The Legislative Committee on Health Care shall:
2 1. Conduct a study of the diversion of patients in need of emergency
3 services and care from hospitals that lack sufficient resources to provide
4 the emergency services and care needed by those patients. The study must
5 include an examination of:
6 (a) The causes of those diversions; and
7 (b) The effect of those diversions on:
8 (1) The delivery of health care services to patients in this state; and
9 (2) The costs of health care incurred by patients and employers in this
10 state.
11 2. Submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for
12 legislation to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
13 transmission to the appropriate standing committees of the 72nd session of
14 the Nevada Legislature.
15 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001, and expires by
16 limitation on June 30, 2003.

