

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 525—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARCH 23, 2007

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to autism.
(BDR 40-1374)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included
in Executive Budget.

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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 Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a program of public education relating to autism; prescribing a designation for inclusion on a driver's license or identification card for tissue donations for research relating to autism; making appropriations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Sections 2-4 of this bill encourage screening for the detection of autism in children and require the Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and carry out a public awareness campaign relating to autism.

Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to allow the holder of a driver's license or identification card the opportunity to indicate on his license or card that he wishes to be an organ donor. (NRS 483.340, 483.840) **Sections 5 and 6** of this bill require the Department to give the holder of the license or card the opportunity to be a tissue donor for research relating to autism.

Section 7 of this bill makes an appropriation for use by the Lili Claire Foundation, Inc., which provides services to families of children with autism.

Section 8 of this bill makes an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services to provide a monthly allocation for certain families of children with autism to pay costs associated with certain programs that provide treatment for children with autism.



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

Section 1. Chapter 442 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 2. *As used in sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act, "autism" means a spectrum disorder which significantly affects the verbal and nonverbal communication and social skills of a person and which is often characterized by repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to changes in environment or daily routine and response to sensory experiences in an unusual manner. The term includes, without limitation, a group of developmental disorders such as autistic disorder, asperger's syndrome, atypical autism, pervasive developmental disorder and other disorders that share the characteristics described in this section.*

Sec. 3. *The Health Division shall encourage providers of health care or other services who are providing services to a child to:*

1. Recommend that the parent or legal guardian of the child, on or before the child reaches 18 months of age, if practicable, complete the checklist for the detection of autism in toddlers; and

2. Perform a screening of the child, on or before the child reaches 18 months of age, if practicable, for the detection of autism.

Sec. 4. 1. *The Health Division shall develop and carry out a program of public education and awareness relating to autism. The program must:*

(a) Include a description of autism and the spectrums of autism;

(b) Include information for parents and legal guardians of children concerning the importance of screening children for the detection of autism on or before the age of 18 months;

(c) Encourage providers of health care or other services who are providing services to children to carry out section 3 of this act;

(d) Include the checklist for the detection of autism in toddlers and any other information which may assist parents and legal guardians in the detection of autism in children;

(e) Provide access to and information concerning continuing education credits relating to autism for providers of health care and other services who wish to obtain such credit;

(f) Identify available resources, services and programs for persons with autism and parents of children with autism, including, without limitation, contact information for those resources, services and programs; and



(g) Other information relating to autism as determined necessary by the Health Division.

2. The Health Division shall ensure that the information required by subsection 1:

(a) Is presented in written materials prepared by the Health Division, including, without limitation, brochures that use terms which are easily understandable;

(b) Is presented on an Internet website maintained by the Health Division, including, without limitation, direct access via the website to the checklist for the detection of autism in toddlers; and

(c) Is made available to child care facilities, public schools, licensed hospitals in this State that provide services for maternity care and the care of newborn children, licensed obstetric centers, providers of health care or other services who are providing services to children and is otherwise made available to the general public.

Sec. 5. NRS 483.340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.340 1. The Department shall, upon payment of the required fee, issue to every qualified applicant a driver's license indicating the type or class of vehicles the licensee may drive. The license must bear a unique number assigned to the licensee pursuant to NRS 483.345, the licensee's social security number, if he has one, unless he requests that it not appear on the license, the name, date of birth, mailing address and a brief description of the licensee, and a space upon which the licensee shall write his usual signature in ink immediately upon receipt of the license. A license is not valid until it has been so signed by the licensee.

2. The Department may issue a driver's license for purposes of identification only for use by officers of local police and sheriffs' departments, agents of the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety while engaged in special undercover investigations relating to narcotics or prostitution or for other undercover investigations requiring the establishment of a fictitious identity, federal agents while engaged in undercover investigations, investigators employed by the Attorney General while engaged in undercover investigations and agents of the State Gaming Control Board while engaged in investigations pursuant to NRS 463.140. An application for such a license must be made through the head of the police or sheriff's department, the Chief of the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety, the director of the appropriate federal agency, the Attorney General or the Chairman of the State Gaming Control Board. Such a license is exempt from the fees required by NRS 483.410. The Department, by regulation, shall



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1 provide for the cancellation of any such driver's license upon the
2 completion of the special investigation for which it was issued.

3 3. Information pertaining to the issuance of a driver's license
4 pursuant to subsection 2 is confidential.

5 4. It is unlawful for any person to use a driver's license issued
6 pursuant to subsection 2 for any purpose other than the special
7 investigation for which it was issued.

8 5. At the time of the issuance or renewal of the driver's license,
9 the Department shall:

10 (a) Give the holder the opportunity to have indicated on his
11 driver's license that he wishes to be a donor of all or part of his body
12 pursuant to NRS 451.500 to 451.590, inclusive, *to be a donor of*
13 *tissue for research relating to autism* or to refuse to make an
14 anatomical gift of his body or part of his body.

15 (b) Give the holder the opportunity to have indicated whether he
16 wishes to donate \$1 or more to the Anatomical Gift Account created
17 by NRS 460.150.

18 (c) Provide to each holder who is interested in becoming a donor
19 information relating to anatomical gifts ~~§~~ *and donations of tissue*,
20 including the procedure for registering as a donor with the organ
21 donor registry *or tissue donor registry* with which the Department
22 has entered into a contract pursuant to this paragraph. To carry out
23 this paragraph, the Department shall, on such terms as it deems
24 appropriate, enter into a contract with an organization which
25 registers as donors persons who desire to make anatomical gifts ~~§~~
26 *and an organization which registers as donors persons who desire*
27 *to make donations of tissue for research relating to autism.*

28 (d) If the Department has established a program for imprinting a
29 symbol or other indicator of a medical condition on a driver's
30 license pursuant to NRS 483.3485, give the holder the opportunity
31 to have a symbol or other indicator of a medical condition imprinted
32 on his driver's license.

33 6. If the holder wishes to make a donation to the Anatomical
34 Gift Account, the Department shall collect the donation and deposit
35 the money collected in the State Treasury for credit to the
36 Anatomical Gift Account.

37 7. The Department shall submit to the organ donor registry *or*
38 *tissue donor registry* with which the Department has entered into a
39 contract pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 5 information from
40 the records of the Department relating to persons who have drivers'
41 licenses that indicate the intention of those persons to make an
42 anatomical gift ~~§~~ *or a donation of tissue for research relating to*
43 *autism.* The Department shall adopt regulations to carry out the
44 provisions of this subsection.



Sec. 6. NRS 483.840 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.840 1. The form of the identification cards must be similar to that of drivers' licenses but distinguishable in color or otherwise.

2. Identification cards do not authorize the operation of any motor vehicles.

3. Identification cards must include the following information concerning the holder:

(a) The name and sample signature of the holder.

(b) A unique identification number assigned to the holder that is not based on the holder's social security number.

(c) A personal description of the holder.

(d) The date of birth of the holder.

(e) The current address of the holder in this State.

(f) A colored photograph of the holder.

4. The information required to be included on the identification card pursuant to subsection 3 must be placed on the card in the manner specified in subsection 1 of NRS 483.347.

5. At the time of the issuance or renewal of the identification card, the Department shall:

(a) Give the holder the opportunity to have indicated on his identification card that he wishes to be a donor of all or part of his body pursuant to NRS 451.500 to 451.590, inclusive, *to be a donor of tissue for research relating to autism* or to refuse to make an anatomical gift of his body or part of his body.

(b) Give the holder the opportunity to indicate whether he wishes to donate \$1 or more to the Anatomical Gift Account created by NRS 460.150.

(c) Provide to each holder who is interested in becoming a donor information relating to anatomical gifts ~~and~~ *and donations of tissue*, including the procedure for registering as a donor with the organ donor registry *or tissue donor registry* with which the Department has entered into a contract pursuant to this paragraph. To carry out this paragraph, the Department shall, on such terms as it deems appropriate, enter into a contract with an organization which registers as donors persons who desire to make anatomical gifts ~~and~~ *and an organization which registers as donors persons who desire to make donations of tissue for research relating to autism*.

(d) If the Department has established a program for imprinting a symbol or other indicator of a medical condition on an identification card pursuant to NRS 483.863, give the holder the opportunity to have a symbol or other indicator of a medical condition imprinted on his identification card.

6. If the holder wishes to make a donation to the Anatomical Gift Account, the Department shall collect the donation and deposit



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1 the money collected in the State Treasury for credit to the
2 Anatomical Gift Account.

3 7. The Department shall submit to the organ donor registry *or*
4 *tissue donor registry* with which the Department has entered into a
5 contract pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 5 information from
6 the records of the Department relating to persons who have
7 identification cards issued by the Department that indicate the
8 intention of those persons to make an anatomical gift ~~H~~ *or a*
9 *donation of tissue for research relating to autism*. The Department
10 shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

11 8. As used in this section, "photograph" has the meaning
12 ascribed to it in NRS 483.125.

13 **Sec. 7.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
14 General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, the
15 sum of \$1,200,000 to assist the Lili Claire Foundation, Inc., in
16 accordance with this section.

17 2. The Department of Health and Human Services shall
18 distribute the money appropriated by subsection 1 to the Lili Claire
19 Foundation, Inc., if the Foundation submits proof satisfactory to the
20 Department that the Foundation has obtained equal matching
21 money, other than money from this State. The matching money may
22 include, without limitation, money from local governmental
23 agencies, community organizations, the private sector and the
24 Federal Government.

25 3. Upon receipt of the money pursuant to subsection 2, the Lili
26 Claire Foundation, Inc., shall use the money for:

27 (a) The enhancement of the facilities and operations of the
28 Foundation in southern Nevada; and

29 (b) The establishment and operation of the Foundation in
30 northern Nevada in collaboration with the Nevada System of Higher
31 Education.

32 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by
33 subsection 1 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after
34 June 30, 2009, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or
35 any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or
36 otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the
37 appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose
38 after September 18, 2009, by either the entity to which the money
39 was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently
40 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General
41 Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

42 **Sec. 8.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
43 General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to
44 assist parents and legal guardians in paying the costs for the
45 treatment of children with autism:



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1 For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008.....\$2,600,000
2 For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009.....\$2,600,000

3 2. The parent or legal guardian of a child with autism may
4 apply to the Department of Health and Human Services, through the
5 Office of Disability Services, for a grant of money appropriated by
6 subsection 1 to assist in paying the cost for the child to participate in
7 a program for the treatment of autism. The application must be on a
8 form prescribed by the Department. The Department shall provide
9 monthly allocations to the parent or legal guardian of a child with
10 autism whose application is approved. The money must be used to
11 assist in paying the cost of a program of treatment which has proven
12 effective through evidence and research in assisting children with
13 autism. If a sufficient amount of money is not available to pay the
14 total amount requested in each approved application, the
15 Department shall allocate the money equitably among parents and
16 legal guardians whose applications are approved.

17 3. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1
18 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be
19 committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal
20 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
21 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
22 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
23 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
24 September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively, by
25 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
26 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred,
27 and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
28 September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively.

29 **Sec. 9.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

