

SENATE BILL NO. 221—COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE)

MARCH 6, 2007

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the development and implementation of health care policy in this State. (BDR 40-307)

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; creating the Office of Health Planning, Analysis and Policy Support in the Department of Health and Human Services and establishing its duties; requiring the Office to conduct certain research concerning health care; requiring the Legislative Committee on Health Care to appoint a subcommittee to conduct a study of the regulation of providers of health care in Nevada; making appropriations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 2 of this bill creates the Office of Health Planning, Analysis and Policy Support in the Department of Health and Human Services. The Office is responsible for providing information to assist in the development of health policy for this State by: (1) conducting policy analysis on health care issues; (2) collecting and disseminating information concerning the quality and cost of health care; and (3) conducting community needs analyses.

Section 5 of this bill makes an appropriation of \$2,177,006 to the Department of Administration to pay the costs of establishing a medical and health records storage data warehouse.

Section 6 of this bill makes an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to the Nevada System of Higher Education to support the program to provide loans to nursing students and the Nevada Health Service Corps.



Section 7 of this bill appropriates \$270,163 to the Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services for staff to support the medical and health records data warehouse.

Section 9 of this bill requires the Legislative Committee on Health Care to appoint a subcommittee to conduct: (1) a review of the laws of this State that establish the scope of practice authorized for providers of health care; and (2) a study concerning the operation of the professional licensing boards for providers of health care with respect to barriers to licensing.

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

Section 1. Chapter 439A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. *The Office of Health Planning, Analysis and Policy Support is hereby created in the Department. The Office shall:*

1. Provide information to assist in the development of health care policy for this State by:

(a) Conducting policy analysis on issues relating to health care; and

(b) Updating the state health plan.

2. Collect and disseminate information concerning the quality and cost of health care.

3. Conduct analyses of community health care needs to assess the general health of specific populations in communities throughout this State and develop benchmarks for community health care to measure changes in the health care system in those communities.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. NRS 439A.081 is hereby amended to read as follows:

439A.081 1. The Department is the agency of the State of Nevada for health planning and development, and shall carry out the state administrative program and perform the functions of health planning and development for the State in accordance with the following priorities:

(a) Providing for the effective use of methods for controlling increases in the cost of health care;

(b) Providing for the adequate supply and distribution of health resources;

(c) Providing for equal access to health care of good quality at a reasonable cost; and

(d) Providing education to the public regarding proper personal health care and methods for the effective use of available health services.

2. In order to carry out the provisions of this chapter, the Director may:



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(a) Delegate the duties of the Director and the Department pursuant to this chapter to any of the divisions of the Department ~~or~~ **or the Office of Health Planning, Analysis and Policy Support;**

(b) Hire employees in the classified service;

(c) Adopt such regulations as are necessary; and

(d) Apply for, accept and disburse money granted by the Federal Government for the purposes of health planning and development.

3. The Department may, by regulation, fix fees to be collected from applicants seeking approval of proposed health facilities or services. The amounts of such fees must be based upon the Department's costs of examining and acting upon the applications.

4. In developing and revising any state plan for health planning and development, the Department shall consider, among other things, the amount of money available from the Federal Government for health planning and development and the conditions attached to the acceptance of that money, and the limitations of legislative appropriations for health planning and development.

Sec. 5. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Administration the sum of \$2,177,006 to pay the costs of establishing a medical and health records storage data warehouse.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

Sec. 6. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Nevada System of Higher Education, the sum of \$1,000,000 to be allocated as follows:

(a) To support the program to provide loans to nursing students pursuant to NRS 396.890 to 396.898, inclusive:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$250,000

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$250,000

(b) To support the Nevada Health Service Corps established pursuant to NRS 396.899 to 396.903, inclusive:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$250,000

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$250,000

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal



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1 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
2 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
3 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
4 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
5 September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively, by
6 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
7 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred,
8 and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
9 September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively.

10 **Sec. 7.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
11 General Fund to the Health Division of the Department of Health
12 and Human Services to hire staff to administer the medical and
13 health records storage data warehouse established pursuant to
14 section 5 of this act:

15 For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008.....\$58,699

16 For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009.....\$211,464

17 2. 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 the
25 entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which
26 the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be
27 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 19, 2008,
28 and September 18, 2009, respectively.

29 **Sec. 8.** (Deleted by amendment.)

30 **Sec. 9.** 1. The Legislative Committee on Health Care shall
31 appoint a subcommittee to review the regulation of providers of
32 health care in Nevada. The subcommittee must consist of:

33 (a) Two members of the Legislative Committee on Health Care
34 appointed by the Chairman of that Committee;

35 (b) The Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Human
36 Resources and Education;

37 (c) A member of the Senate Standing Committee on Commerce
38 and Labor who served during the 74th Session of the Nevada
39 Legislature appointed by the Chairman of that Committee;

40 (d) The Chairman of the Assembly Standing Committee on
41 Health and Human Services; and

42 (e) A member of the Assembly Standing Committee on
43 Commerce and Labor during the 74th Session of the Nevada
44 Legislature appointed by the Chairman of that Committee.



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2. The Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Health Care shall designate a member of the subcommittee to serve as Chairman.

3. The subcommittee shall:

(a) Conduct:

(1) A review of the laws of this State relating to the scope of practice authorized for providers of health care.

(2) A study concerning the operation of the professional licensing boards for providers of health care with respect to barriers to licensing.

(b) Not later than June 30, 2008, submit a report of the results of its review and study and any recommendations for legislation to the Legislative Committee on Health Care.

4. The subcommittee may contract with such experts, researchers and consultants as may be necessary for the subcommittee to carry out its duties.

Sec. 10. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 11. 1. This section and section 5 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, and 6 to 10, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2007.

