

Amendment No. 1170

Senate Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 89 First Reprint	(BDR 53-849)
Proposed by: Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor	
Amends: Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes	

ASSEMBLY ACTION		Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION		Initial and Date
Adopted	☐	Lost ☐	Adopted	☐	Lost ☐
Concurred In	☐	Not ☐	Concurred In	☐	Not ☐
Receded	☐	Not ☐	Receded	☐	Not ☐

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) *green bold italic underlining* is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment; and (6) *green bold* is newly added transitory language.

RRY



Date: 6/4/2007

A.B. No. 89—Revises provisions regarding industrial injuries and occupational diseases to include as police officers certain employees of the Department of Public Safety and the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. (BDR 53-849)



ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 89—ASSEMBLYMEN PARNELL, BOBZIEN,
HOGAN, KIRKPATRICK, PIERCE AND SMITH

FEBRUARY 12, 2007

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions regarding industrial injuries and occupational diseases . ~~to include as police officers certain employees of the Department of Public Safety and the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.~~ (BDR 53-849)

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 public employees; including certain employees of the Department of Public Safety and certain park rangers and employees of the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in the definition of “police officer” for various purposes relating to industrial injuries, occupational diseases and programs for public employees; **revising certain provisions concerning heart disease as an occupational disease of volunteer firefighters**; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law provides for certain police officers suffering from certain occupational diseases to receive disability benefits. (NRS 617.135, 617.455, 617.457, 617.485, 617.487) Existing law defines “police officer” for the purpose of providing those disability benefits to include various law enforcement officers in this State. (NRS 617.135) Existing law also grants the powers of peace officers to certain park rangers and employees of the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. (NRS 289.260) **Section 1** of this bill expands the definition of police officer to make certain employees of the Department of Public Safety and certain park rangers and division employees of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources eligible for the disability benefits provided to police officers. **Section 2** of this bill makes an appropriation to the Division for physical examinations for those park rangers and division employees.

Existing law provides that, under certain circumstances, heart disease of a volunteer firefighter constitutes an occupational disease for purposes of chapter 617 of NRS. (NRS 617.457) Section 1.5 of this bill removes the requirement that the heart disease must have occurred before the volunteer firefighter reached 55 years of age. Section 1.5 also revises the frequency with which the volunteer firefighter must submit to a physical examination to detect such heart disease. Further, section 1.5 requires an applicant for employment as a volunteer firefighter to pay the cost of his initial physical examination

and requires his employer to reimburse that cost if he is employed as a volunteer firefighter.

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

Section 1. NRS 617.135 is hereby amended to read as follows:

617.135 “Police officer” includes:

1. A sheriff, deputy sheriff, officer of a metropolitan police department or city policeman;

2. A chief, inspector, supervisor, commercial officer or trooper of the Nevada Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public Safety;

3. A chief, investigator or agent of the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety;

4. *A chief, supervisor, investigator or training officer of the Training Division of the Department of Public Safety;*

5. *A chief or investigator of an office of the Department of Public Safety that conducts internal investigations of employees of the Department of Public Safety or investigates other issues relating to the professional responsibility of those employees;*

6. *A chief or investigator of the Department of Public Safety whose duties include, without limitation:*

(a) The execution, administration or enforcement of the provisions of chapter 179A of NRS; and

(b) The provision of technology support services to the Director and the divisions of the Department of Public Safety;

7. An officer or investigator of the Section for the Control of Emissions From Vehicles and the Enforcement of Matters Related to the Use of Special Fuel of the Department of Motor Vehicles;

~~8.~~ 8. An investigator of the Division of Compliance Enforcement of the Department of Motor Vehicles;

~~9.~~ 9. A member of the police department of the Nevada System of Higher Education;

~~10.~~ 10. A:

(a) Uniformed employee of; or

(b) Forensic specialist employed by,

the Department of Corrections whose position requires regular and frequent contact with the offenders imprisoned and subjects the employee to recall in emergencies;

~~11.~~ 11. A parole and probation officer of the Division of Parole and Probation of the Department of Public Safety;

~~12.~~ 12. A forensic specialist or correctional officer employed by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services of the Department of Health and Human Services at facilities for mentally disordered offenders;

~~13.~~ 13. The State Fire Marshal, his assistant and his deputies; ~~and~~

~~14.~~ 14. A game warden of the Department of Wildlife who has the powers of a peace officer pursuant to NRS 289.280 ~~;~~ *and*

15. *A ranger or employee of the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources who has the powers of a peace officer pursuant to NRS 289.260.*

Sec. 1.5. NRS 617.457 is hereby amended to read as follows:

617.457 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, diseases of the heart of a person who, for 5 years or more, has been employed in a full-time continuous, uninterrupted and salaried occupation as a firefighter or police officer in this State before the date of disablement are conclusively presumed to have arisen out of and in the course of the employment.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, diseases of the heart, resulting in either temporary or permanent disability or death, are occupational diseases and compensable as such under the provisions of this chapter if caused by extreme overexertion in times of stress or danger and a causal relationship can be shown by competent evidence that the disability or death arose out of and was caused by the performance of duties as a volunteer firefighter by a person entitled to the benefits of chapters 616A to 616D, inclusive, of NRS pursuant to the provisions of NRS 616A.145 and who, for 5 years or more, has served continuously as a volunteer firefighter in this State. ~~and who has not reached the age of 55 years before the onset of the disease.~~

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, each employee who is to be covered for diseases of the heart pursuant to the provisions of this section shall submit to a physical examination, including an examination of the heart, upon employment, upon commencement of coverage and thereafter on an annual basis during his employment.

4. A physical examination ~~is not required~~ for a volunteer firefighter ~~more than~~ is required upon initial employment and once every 3 years after ~~that~~ the initial examination ~~until the volunteer firefighter reaches the age of 50 years.~~ Each volunteer firefighter who is 50 years of age or older shall submit to a physical examination once each year. The employer of the volunteer firefighter is responsible for scheduling the physical examination.

5. An applicant for the position as a volunteer firefighter who is 50 years of age or older shall pay the cost of his initial physical examination described in subsections 3 and 4. If the applicant is accepted for employment as a volunteer firefighter, the employer of the volunteer firefighter shall reimburse him the cost of the initial physical examination.

6. ~~All~~ Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, all physical examinations required pursuant to ~~subsection~~ subsections 3 and 4 must be paid for by the employer.

~~6.7~~ 7. Failure to correct predisposing conditions which lead to heart disease when so ordered in writing by the examining physician subsequent to the annual examination excludes the employee from the benefits of this section if the correction is within the ability of the employee.

~~7.7~~ 8. A person who is determined to be:

(a) Partially disabled from an occupational disease pursuant to the provisions of this section; and

(b) Incapable of performing, with or without remuneration, work as a firefighter or police officer,

may elect to receive the benefits provided under NRS 616C.440 for a permanent total disability.

~~9.7~~ 9. Claims filed under this section may be reopened at any time during the life of the claimant for further examination and treatment of the claimant upon certification by a physician of a change of circumstances related to the occupational disease which would warrant an increase or rearrangement of compensation.

Sec. 2. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, for the physical examinations required pursuant to NRS 617.454,

617.455, 617.457, 617.485 and 617.487 for rangers or employees of the Division who are police officers pursuant to NRS 617.135 as amended by section 1 of this act:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008\$31,391.05

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009\$13,109.20

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years 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 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively, 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 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively.

Sec. 3. 1. A person who, on July 1, 2007, is employed as a ranger or employee of the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources who has the powers of a peace officer pursuant to NRS 289.260 shall submit to a physical examination pursuant to NRS 617.454, 617.455 and 617.457 and a blood test to screen for hepatitis C pursuant to NRS 617.487 on or after July 1, 2007, but on or before September 30, 2007. Each physical examination and blood test must be paid for by the Department.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 617.455, 617.457 and 617.487, if a person fails to submit to a physical examination or blood test required pursuant to subsection 1, the conclusive presumption relating to diseases of the lungs created by NRS 617.455, diseases of the heart created by NRS 617.457 and infections of hepatitis C pursuant to NRS 617.487 shall be deemed, with regard to that person and for the purposes of those sections, to create a rebuttable presumption that the disease of the lungs or heart or infection of hepatitis C arose out of and in the course of the employment of the person as a ranger or employee specified in subsection 1.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.