

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 29—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF CLARK COUNTY)

PREFILED DECEMBER 14, 2010

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing county hospitals.
(BDR 40-343)

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 public hospitals; authorizing the boards of hospital trustees of certain public hospitals to fix the compensation of members of hospital advisory boards; revising provisions governing the staff of physicians at public hospitals; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes certain boards of hospital trustees of public hospitals to appoint advisory boards and limits the compensation for the service of members of advisory boards to not more than \$100 per month. (NRS 450.175) **Section 1** of this bill repeals the \$100 per month limit on compensation and provides that members of a hospital advisory board may receive as compensation for their services an amount fixed by the board of hospital trustees.

Existing law requires the board of hospital trustees of a public hospital to organize a staff of physicians composed of each regularly practicing physician, podiatric physician and dentist in the county who requests staff membership and prohibits the board from discriminating against a physician, podiatric physician or dentist. (NRS 450.440, 450.430) **Section 3** of this bill provides that the staff of physicians, podiatric physicians and dentists may be required to be affiliated with the University of Nevada School of Medicine or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Dental Medicine.



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

Section 1. NRS 450.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:
450.175 1. In counties where the board of county commissioners is the board of hospital trustees, the board of hospital trustees may appoint a hospital advisory board which shall exercise powers and duties delegated to the advisory board by the board of hospital trustees.

2. Members of a hospital advisory board must be appointed by a majority vote of the board of hospital trustees and shall serve at the pleasure of the board.

3. Members of the hospital advisory board may receive compensation for their services ~~[of no more than \$100 per month.]~~ *in an amount fixed by the board of hospital trustees.*

Sec. 2. NRS 450.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450.430 1. In the management of the public hospital, no discrimination may be made against physicians, podiatric physicians or dentists licensed under the laws of this state or licensed practitioners of the allied health professions, and all such physicians, dentists, podiatric physicians and practitioners have privileges in treating patients in the hospital in accordance with their training and ability, except that ~~[practitioners]~~ :

(a) If the board of hospital trustees organizes the staff of physicians in accordance with subsection 2 of NRS 450.440, the board of hospital trustees may require a physician, podiatric physician or dentist to be affiliated with the University of Nevada School of Medicine or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Dental Medicine.

(b) Practitioners of the allied health professions may not be members of the staff of physicians described in NRS 450.440. Practitioners of the allied health professions are subject to the bylaws and regulations established by the board of hospital trustees.

2. The patient has the right to employ, at the patient's own expense, his or her own physician, if that physician is a member of the hospital staff, or the patient's own nurse, and when acting for any patient in the hospital, the physician employed by the patient has charge of the care and treatment of the patient, and the nurses in the hospital shall comply with the directions of the physician concerning that patient, subject to the regulations established by the board of hospital trustees.

Sec. 3. NRS 450.440 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450.440 1. ~~[The]~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the* board of hospital trustees shall organize a staff of physicians composed of each regular practicing physician, podiatric physician



1 and dentist in the county in which the hospital is located who
2 requests staff membership and meets the standards set forth in the
3 regulations prescribed by the board of hospital trustees.

4 2. *The board of hospital trustees may organize a staff of*
5 *physicians composed solely of physicians, podiatric physicians and*
6 *dentists who are affiliated with the University of Nevada School of*
7 *Medicine or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of*
8 *Dental Medicine who request staff membership and meet the*
9 *standards set forth in the regulations prescribed by the board of*
10 *hospital trustees. If the board of hospital trustees organizes the*
11 *staff of physicians in accordance with this subsection, a physician,*
12 *podiatric physician or dentist who requests staff membership*
13 *must:*

14 (a) *Meet the standards prescribed by the board of hospital*
15 *trustees;*

16 (b) *Obtain a letter from the University of Nevada School of*
17 *Medicine or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of*
18 *Dental Medicine indicating that he or she is affiliated with that*
19 *school; and*

20 (c) *Maintain an affiliation with the University of Nevada*
21 *School of Medicine or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,*
22 *School of Dental Medicine while he or she is on the staff of*
23 *physicians.*

24 3. The staff shall organize in a manner prescribed by the board
25 so that there is a rotation of service among the members of the staff
26 to give proper medical and surgical attention and service to the
27 indigent sick, injured or maimed who may be admitted to the
28 hospital for treatment.

29 ~~3.1~~ 4. The board of hospital trustees or the board of county
30 commissioners may offer the following assistance to members of the
31 staff to attract and retain them:

32 (a) Establishment of clinic or group practice;

33 (b) Malpractice insurance coverage under the hospital's policy
34 of professional liability insurance;

35 (c) Professional fee billing; and

36 (d) The opportunity to rent office space in facilities owned or
37 operated by the hospital, as the space is available, if this opportunity
38 is offered to all members of the staff on the same terms and
39 conditions.

40 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

