

SENATE BILL NO. 371—SENATOR CEGAVSKE

MARCH 21, 2011

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning the protection of children. (BDR 38-3)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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 children; requiring the nomination and appointment of a person who is legally responsible for the health care of a child who is placed in the custody of an agency which provides child welfare services; establishing the duties and responsibilities of such a legally responsible person; imposing criminal and civil liability on a legally responsible person for certain acts committed by or harm occurring to a child under certain circumstances; revising provisions governing the provision of mental health care to children in the custody of agencies which provide child welfare services; revising provisions relating to the health care records of children who are placed in the custody of such an agency; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, each agency which provides child welfare services is required to establish appropriate policies to ensure that children in the custody of the agency have timely access to clinically appropriate psychotropic medication. (NRS 432B.197) **Sections 2-7** of this bill require the appointment of a person who is legally responsible for the health care of each child who is in the custody of such an agency and who requires mental health care, including making all decisions concerning services, treatment and psychotropic medications provided to such children.

Section 3 of this bill requires an agency which provides child welfare services to nominate a person who is legally responsible for the health care of a child who is in the custody of the agency and who requires mental health care. The court with jurisdiction over the child is required pursuant to **section 7** of this bill to appoint a person who is legally responsible for the health care of the child. The court may



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14 appoint the person nominated by the agency or may appoint any other person who
15 the court determines is qualified to carry out the duties and responsibilities of a
16 person who is legally responsible for the health care of the child.

17 **Section 4** of this bill requires the person who is legally responsible for the
18 health care of a child to provide written consent or, in writing, deny consent for
19 each appointment or for a course of routine treatment for mental health care of the
20 child and to maintain current information concerning the medical history and the
21 emotional, behavioral and educational needs of the child. **Section 5** of this bill
22 requires the person who is legally responsible for the health care of a child to
23 approve or deny the administration of each psychotropic medication recommended
24 for the child and to provide notice of the approval or denial. **Sections 5 and 9** of
25 this bill prohibit the administration of a psychotropic medication to a child in the
26 custody of an agency without consent from the person who is legally responsible
27 for the health care of the child.

28 **Section 6** of this bill requires that reasonable care be taken by a person who is
29 legally responsible for the health care of a child and imposes criminal and civil
30 liability for certain acts committed by or harm occurring to the child under certain
31 circumstances.

32 **Section 14** of this bill requires certain providers of health care to obtain written
33 consent from a person who is legally responsible for the health care of a child
34 before providing mental health care to a child in the custody of an agency which
35 provides child welfare services and requires the provider of health care to keep a
36 copy of the consent in the health care record of the child.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 432B of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in NRS 432B.197 and sections 2 to 6,*
5 *inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires,*
6 *“person professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental*
7 *health” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 433A.018.*

8 **Sec. 3. 1.** *If a child who is in the custody of an agency*
9 *which provides child welfare services has a prescription for a*
10 *psychotropic medication upon entering the custody of the agency*
11 *or if the agency determines that a child may be in need of mental*
12 *health care, the agency shall nominate, pending appointment by a*
13 *court pursuant to section 7 of this act, a person who is legally*
14 *responsible for the health care of the child. A person nominated*
15 *pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed to be the person who*
16 *is legally responsible for the health care of the child pending*
17 *approval by a court pursuant to section 7 of this act.*

18 **2.** *Upon nominating a person who is legally responsible for*
19 *the health care of a child pursuant to this section, the agency*
20 *which provides child welfare services shall petition the court with*
21 *jurisdiction over the child for the appointment of the nominee as*



1 *the person who is legally responsible for the health care of the*
2 *child. A petition filed pursuant to this subsection may be heard by*
3 *the court at the next hearing of the court conducted pursuant to*
4 *NRS 432B.410 to 432B.590, inclusive, and section 7 of this act or*
5 *at a hearing for the express purpose of appointing a person*
6 *pursuant to section 7 of this act.*

7 3. *A person who is legally responsible for the health care of a*
8 *child may be:*

9 (a) *A parent or legal guardian of the child;*
10 (b) *The attorney for the child;*
11 (c) *The guardian ad litem of the child;*
12 (d) *The foster parent or other provider of substitute care for*
13 *the child; or*

14 (e) *Any other person who a court determines is qualified to*
15 *carry out the duties and responsibilities prescribed by NRS*
16 *432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and any policies*
17 *adopted pursuant thereto,*

18 *↳ who is appointed by a court pursuant to NRS 432B.410 to*
19 *432B.590, inclusive, and section 7 of this act.*

20 **Sec. 4.** 1. *A person who is legally responsible for the health*
21 *care of a child who is in the custody of an agency which provides*
22 *child welfare services is responsible for the procurement and*
23 *oversight of all medical and psychiatric care for the child and*
24 *shall make all decisions relating to the mental health care*
25 *and related treatment of the child, including, without limitation,*
26 *the approval of all psychiatric services, psychiatric treatment and*
27 *psychotropic medication that may be administered to the child.*

28 2. *A person who is appointed to be legally responsible for the*
29 *health care of a child shall:*

30 (a) *To the extent that such information is available, maintain*
31 *current information concerning the medical history of the child,*
32 *including, without limitation:*

33 (1) *All known allergies of the child;*
34 (2) *Past and current illnesses and treatments of the child;*
35 (3) *Past and current psychiatric history and treatments of*
36 *the child;*

37 (4) *Past and current psychiatric history of the family of the*
38 *child; and*

39 (5) *Any other information which is necessary to make*
40 *decisions relating to the medical treatment of the child.*

41 (b) *Maintain current information concerning the emotional,*
42 *behavioral, educational and related needs of the child.*

43 (c) *Attend each visit of the child to receive mental health care*
44 *or be available by telephone to discuss the visit with the person*



1 *professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health*
2 *who treats the child.*

3 3. *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person*
4 *who is legally responsible for the health care of a child shall*
5 *provide written consent or in writing, deny consent for each visit*
6 *of the child with a person professionally qualified in the field of*
7 *psychiatric mental health who treats the child. Written consent is*
8 *not required for each visit if the visit is part of the routine care of*
9 *the child and the written consent approves such routine care.*
10 *Written consent for routine care may be revoked at any time.*

11 4. *Written consent provided pursuant to subsection 3 must*
12 *include, without limitation:*

13 (a) *The name and address of the person with whom the child*
14 *currently resides or the name and location of the agency which*
15 *provides child welfare services where the child currently resides;*

16 (b) *The name of the person who is legally responsible for the*
17 *health care of the child;*

18 (c) *The name of the person professionally qualified in the field*
19 *of psychiatric mental health who treats the child;*

20 (d) *The date, time and location of the visit or, if the consent is*
21 *for routine visits, the frequency and duration of the routine visits;*
22 *and*

23 (e) *If the person who is legally responsible for the health care*
24 *of the child does not attend a visit, a written statement that the*
25 *person is aware of and is available to discuss the visit and the*
26 *treatment recommended for the child with the person*
27 *professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health.*

28 **Sec. 5. 1.** *A person who is legally responsible for the health*
29 *care of a child who is in the custody of an agency which provides*
30 *child welfare services shall approve or deny the administration of*
31 *a psychotropic medication to the child:*

32 (a) *After considering the purpose, benefits, risks, alternatives,*
33 *side effects and complications of each psychotropic medication*
34 *recommended by the person professionally qualified in the field of*
35 *psychiatric mental health who treats the child;*

36 (b) *After considering any additional information provided by*
37 *the person professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric*
38 *mental health who treats the child; and*

39 (c) *In accordance with the policies adopted by the agency*
40 *which provides child welfare services pursuant to NRS 432B.197.*

41 2. *If a person who is legally responsible for the health care of*
42 *a child:*

43 (a) *Approves the administration of a psychotropic medication*
44 *to the child, the person shall provide written consent to the person*
45 *professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health,*



1 *the agency which provides child welfare services and the foster*
2 *parent or other provider of substitute care for the child for the*
3 *administration of the psychotropic medication. The written*
4 *consent must include:*

5 *(1) The name of the child;*

6 *(2) The name, address and telephone number of the person*
7 *who is legally responsible for the health care of the child;*

8 *(3) The name, purpose and expected time frame for*
9 *improvement for each medication;*

10 *(4) The dosage, times of administration and, if applicable,*
11 *the number of units at each administration of the medication*
12 *which may be administered to the child;*

13 *(5) The duration of the course of treatment for the*
14 *administration of the medication;*

15 *(6) A description of the possible risks, side effects*
16 *interactions with other medications or foods, and complications of*
17 *the medication; and*

18 *(7) If applicable, the specific authorization required by*
19 *subsection 4.*

20 *(b) Denies the administration of a psychotropic medication to*
21 *the child, the person shall provide written notice of the denial to*
22 *the agency which provides child welfare services.*

23 *3. The foster parent or other provider of substitute care for a*
24 *child in the custody of an agency which provides child welfare*
25 *services shall not administer a psychotropic medication to the*
26 *child unless:*

27 *(a) The person who is legally responsible for the health care of*
28 *the child has consented to the administration of the medication;*
29 *and*

30 *(b) The psychotropic medication is administered in accordance*
31 *with the consent of the person who is legally responsible for the*
32 *health care of the child.*

33 *4. The person who is legally responsible for the health care of*
34 *a child must, in addition to providing written consent for the*
35 *administration of a psychotropic medication, specifically approve:*

36 *(a) The use of psychotropic medication in a manner that has*
37 *not been tested or approved by the United States Food and Drug*
38 *Administration, including, without limitation, the use of such*
39 *medication for a child who is of an age that has not been tested or*
40 *approved or who has a condition for which the use of the*
41 *medication has not been tested or approved;*

42 *(b) The prescribing of any psychotropic medication for use by*
43 *a child who is less than 4 years of age;*

44 *(c) The concurrent use by a child of three or more classes of*
45 *psychotropic medication; and*



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(d) *The concurrent use by a child of two psychotropic medications of the same class.*

Sec. 6. *A person who is legally responsible for the health care of a child in the custody of an agency which provides child welfare services:*

1. Shall exercise reasonable care in carrying out his or her duties and responsibilities pursuant to NRS 432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and any policies adopted pursuant thereto.

2. Is liable for any injury or damage which is caused or sustained by the child as a result of the negligence of the person in carrying out his or her duties and responsibilities pursuant to NRS 432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and any policies adopted pursuant thereto, including, without limitation, any criminal or civil liability to which a parent or legal guardian of the child would be subject relating to the health care of the child.

Sec. 7. *If proceedings pursuant to this chapter involve the protection of a child who requires mental health care, including, without limitation, any child who is administered a psychotropic medication, the court shall appoint as the person who is legally responsible for the health care of the child:*

1. The person nominated by the agency which provides child welfare services pursuant to section 3 of this act; or

2. Any other person who the court determines is qualified to carry out the duties and responsibilities of a person who is legally responsible for the health care of the child.

Sec. 8. NRS 432B.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

432B.190 The Division of Child and Family Services shall, in consultation with each agency which provides child welfare services, adopt:

1. Regulations establishing reasonable and uniform standards for:

(a) Child welfare services provided in this State;

(b) Programs for the prevention of abuse or neglect of a child and the achievement of the permanent placement of a child;

(c) The development of local councils involving public and private organizations;

(d) Reports of abuse or neglect, records of these reports and the response to these reports;

(e) Carrying out the provisions of NRS 432B.260, including, without limitation, the qualifications of persons with whom agencies which provide child welfare services enter into agreements to provide services to children and families;

(f) The management and assessment of reported cases of abuse or neglect;



- 1 (g) The protection of the legal rights of parents and children;
- 2 (h) Emergency shelter for a child;
- 3 (i) The prevention, identification and correction of abuse or
- 4 neglect of a child in residential institutions;
- 5 (j) Developing and distributing to persons who are responsible
- 6 for a child's welfare a pamphlet that is written in language which is
- 7 easy to understand, is available in English and in any other language
- 8 the Division determines is appropriate based on the demographic
- 9 characteristics of this State and sets forth:

10 (1) Contact information regarding persons and governmental

11 entities which provide assistance to persons who are responsible for

12 the welfare of children, including, without limitation, persons and

13 entities which provide assistance to persons who are being

14 investigated for allegedly abusing or neglecting a child;

15 (2) The procedures for taking a child for placement in

16 protective custody; and

17 (3) The state and federal legal rights of:

18 (I) A person who is responsible for a child's welfare and

19 who is the subject of an investigation of alleged abuse or neglect of

20 a child, including, without limitation, the legal rights of such a

21 person at the time an agency which provides child welfare services

22 makes initial contact with the person in the course of the

23 investigation and at the time the agency takes the child for

24 placement in protective custody, and the legal right of such a person

25 to be informed of any allegation of abuse or neglect of a child which

26 is made against the person at the initial time of contact with the

27 person by the agency; and

28 (II) Persons who are parties to a proceeding held pursuant

29 to NRS 432B.410 to 432B.590, inclusive, *and section 7 of this act*

30 during all stages of the proceeding; and

31 (k) Making the necessary inquiries required pursuant to NRS

32 432B.397 to determine whether a child is an Indian child.

33 2. Regulations, which are applicable to any person who is

34 authorized to place a child in protective custody without the consent

35 of the person responsible for the child's welfare, setting forth

36 reasonable and uniform standards for establishing whether

37 immediate action is necessary to protect the child from injury, abuse

38 or neglect for the purposes of determining whether to place the child

39 into protective custody pursuant to NRS 432B.390. Such standards

40 must consider the potential harm to the child in remaining in his or

41 her home, including, without limitation:

42 (a) Circumstances in which a threat of harm suggests that a child

43 is in imminent danger of serious harm.

44 (b) The conditions or behaviors of the child's family which

45 threaten the safety of the child who is unable to protect himself or



1 herself and who is dependent on others for protection, including,
2 without limitation, conditions or behaviors that are beyond the
3 control of the caregiver of the child and create an imminent threat of
4 serious harm to the child.

5 ➤ The Division of Child and Family Services shall ensure that the
6 appropriate persons or entities to whom the regulations adopted
7 pursuant to this subsection apply are provided with a copy of such
8 regulations. As used in this subsection, "serious harm" includes the
9 threat or evidence of serious physical injury, sexual abuse,
10 significant pain or mental suffering, extreme fear or terror, extreme
11 impairment or disability, death, substantial impairment or risk of
12 substantial impairment to the child's mental or physical health or
13 development.

14 3. Such other regulations as are necessary for the
15 administration of NRS 432B.010 to 432B.606, inclusive ~~H~~, and
16 *sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.*

17 **Sec. 9.** NRS 432B.197 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 432B.197 *1.* Each agency which provides child welfare
19 services shall establish appropriate policies to ensure that children in
20 the custody of the agency have timely access to *and safe*
21 *administration of* clinically appropriate psychotropic medication.
22 The policies must include, without limitation, policies concerning:

23 ~~H~~ *(a)* The use of psychotropic medication in a manner that
24 has not been tested or approved by the United States Food and Drug
25 Administration, including, without limitation, the use of such
26 medication for a child who is of an age that has not been tested or
27 approved or who has a condition for which the use of the medication
28 has not been tested or approved;

29 ~~I~~ *(b)* Prescribing any psychotropic medication for use by a
30 child who is less than 4 years of age;

31 ~~I~~ *(c)* The concurrent use by a child of three or more classes of
32 psychotropic medication; ~~and~~

33 ~~—4~~ *(d)* The concurrent use by a child of two psychotropic
34 medications of the same class ~~H~~; and

35 *(e) The criteria for nominating persons who are legally*
36 *responsible for the health care of children in the custody of*
37 *agencies which provide child welfare services pursuant to NRS*
38 *432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and the policies*
39 *adopted pursuant thereto.*

40 *2. An agency which provides child welfare services shall not*
41 *allow the administration of a psychotropic medication to a child in*
42 *the custody of the agency unless:*

43 *(a) The person who is legally responsible for the health care of*
44 *the child has consented to the administration of the medication;*
45 *and*



1 ***(b) The psychotropic medication is administered in accordance***
2 ***with the consent of the person who is legally responsible for the***
3 ***health care of the child.***

4 ***3. An agency which provides child welfare services shall, at***
5 ***least quarterly, review the records for each child in the custody of***
6 ***the agency who is administered a psychotropic medication to***
7 ***determine whether the medication is being administered in***
8 ***accordance with NRS 432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of***
9 ***this act and the policies adopted pursuant thereto. The agency may***
10 ***use the results of the quarterly reviews to determine whether the***
11 ***placement of the child should be continued.***

12 **Sec. 10.** NRS 432B.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 432B.430 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 3
14 and 4 and NRS 432B.457, in each judicial district that includes a
15 county whose population is 400,000 or more:

16 (a) Any proceeding held pursuant to NRS 432B.410 to
17 432B.590, inclusive, ***and section 7 of this act***, other than a hearing
18 held pursuant to subsections 1 to 4, inclusive, of NRS 432B.530 or a
19 hearing held pursuant to subsection 5 of NRS 432B.530 when the
20 court proceeds immediately, must be open to the general public
21 unless the judge or master, upon his or her own motion or upon the
22 motion of another person, determines that all or part of the
23 proceeding must be closed to the general public because such
24 closure is in the best interests of the child who is the subject of the
25 proceeding. In determining whether closing all or part of the
26 proceeding is in the best interests of the child who is the subject of
27 the proceeding, the judge or master must consider and give due
28 weight to the desires of that child.

29 (b) If the judge or master determines pursuant to paragraph (a)
30 that all or part of a proceeding must be closed to the general public:

31 (1) The judge or master must make specific findings of fact
32 to support such a determination; and

33 (2) The general public must be excluded and only those
34 persons having a direct interest in the case, as determined by the
35 judge or master, may be admitted to the proceeding.

36 (c) Any proceeding held pursuant to subsections 1 to 4,
37 inclusive, of NRS 432B.530 and any proceeding held pursuant to
38 subsection 5 of NRS 432B.530 when the court proceeds
39 immediately must be closed to the general public unless the judge or
40 master, upon his or her own motion or upon the motion of another
41 person, determines that all or part of the proceeding must be open to
42 the general public because opening the proceeding in such a manner
43 is in the best interests of the child who is the subject of the
44 proceeding. In determining whether opening all or part of the
45 proceeding is in the best interests of the child who is the subject of



1 the proceeding, the judge or master must consider and give due
2 weight to the desires of that child. If the judge or master determines
3 pursuant to this paragraph that all or part of a proceeding must be
4 open to the general public, the judge or master must make specific
5 findings of fact to support such a determination. Unless the judge or
6 master determines pursuant to this paragraph that all or part of a
7 proceeding described in this paragraph must be open to the general
8 public, the general public must be excluded and only those persons
9 having a direct interest in the case, as determined by the judge or
10 master, may be admitted to the proceeding.

11 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 3 and 4 and
12 NRS 432B.457, in each judicial district that includes a county
13 whose population is less than 400,000:

14 (a) Any proceeding held pursuant to NRS 432B.410 to
15 432B.590, inclusive, *and section 7 of this act* must be closed to the
16 general public unless the judge or master, upon his or her own
17 motion or upon the motion of another person, determines that all or
18 part of the proceeding must be open to the general public because
19 opening the proceeding in such a manner is in the best interests of
20 the child who is the subject of the proceeding. In determining
21 whether opening all or part of the proceeding is in the best interests
22 of the child who is the subject of the proceeding, the judge or master
23 shall consider and give due weight to the desires of that child.

24 (b) If the judge or master determines pursuant to paragraph (a)
25 that all or part of a proceeding must be open to the general public,
26 the judge or master must make specific findings of fact to support
27 such a determination.

28 (c) Unless the judge or master determines pursuant to paragraph
29 (a) that all or part of a proceeding must be open to the general
30 public, the general public must be excluded and only those persons
31 having a direct interest in the case, as determined by the judge or
32 master, may be admitted to the proceeding.

33 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 and NRS
34 432B.457, in a proceeding held pursuant to NRS 432B.470, the
35 general public must be excluded and only those persons having a
36 direct interest in the case, as determined by the judge or master, may
37 be admitted to the proceeding.

38 4. In conducting a proceeding held pursuant to NRS 432B.410
39 to 432B.590, inclusive, *and section 7 of this act*, a judge or master
40 shall keep information confidential to the extent necessary to obtain
41 federal funds in the maximum amount available to this state.

42 **Sec. 11.** NRS 432B.4675 is hereby amended to read as
43 follows:

44 432B.4675 Upon the entry of a final order by the court
45 establishing a guardianship pursuant to NRS 432B.4665:



1 1. The custody of the child by the agency which has legal
2 custody of the child is terminated;

3 2. The proceedings concerning the child conducted pursuant to
4 NRS 432B.410 to 432B.590, inclusive, *and section 7 of this act*
5 terminate; and

6 3. Unless subsequently ordered by the court to assist the court,
7 the following agencies and persons are excused from any
8 responsibility to participate in the guardianship case:

9 (a) The agency which has legal custody of the child; ~~and~~

10 (b) Any counsel or guardian ad litem appointed by the court to
11 assist in the proceedings conducted pursuant to NRS 432B.410 to
12 432B.590, inclusive ~~and~~, *and section 7 of this act; and*

13 (c) *Any person nominated or appointed as the person who is*
14 *legally responsible for the health care of the child pursuant to*
15 *section 3 or 7 of this act, respectively.*

16 **Sec. 12.** NRS 62A.380 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 62A.380 1. In carrying out the objects and purposes of this
18 title, the juvenile court may use the services and facilities of the
19 agency which provides child welfare services.

20 2. The agency which provides child welfare services shall
21 determine the plans, placements and services to be provided to any
22 child pursuant to the provisions of this title, chapter 432 of NRS and
23 NRS 432B.010 to 432B.400, inclusive ~~and~~, *and sections 2 to 6,*
24 *inclusive, of this act.*

25 3. As used in this section, "agency which provides child
26 welfare services" means:

27 (a) In a county whose population is less than 100,000, the local
28 office of the Division of Child and Family Services; or

29 (b) In a county whose population is 100,000 or more, the agency
30 of the county,

31 ➤ which provides or arranges for necessary child welfare services.

32 **Sec. 13.** NRS 433B.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 433B.130 1. The Administrator shall:

34 (a) Administer, in accordance with the policies established by
35 the Commission, the programs of the Division for the mental health
36 of children.

37 (b) Establish appropriate policies to ensure that children in
38 division facilities have timely access to clinically appropriate
39 psychotropic medication that are consistent with the ~~the policies~~
40 ~~established pursuant to~~ *provisions of* NRS 432B.197 ~~and~~
41 *sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and the policies adopted*
42 *pursuant thereto.*

43 2. The Administrator may:

44 (a) Appoint the administrative personnel necessary to operate
45 the programs of the Division for the mental health of children.



(b) Delegate to the administrative officers the power to appoint medical, technical, clerical and operational staff necessary for the operation of any division facilities.

3. If the Administrator finds that it is necessary or desirable that any employee reside at a facility operated by the Division or receive meals at such a facility, perquisites granted or charges for services rendered to that person are at the discretion of the Director of the Department.

4. The Administrator may accept children referred to the Division for treatment pursuant to the provisions of NRS 458.290 to 458.350, inclusive.

5. The Administrator may enter into agreements with the Administrator of the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services of the Department for the care and treatment of clients of the Division of Child and Family Services at any facility operated by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services.

Sec. 14. Chapter 629 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. A provider of health care who is asked to provide mental health care to a child who is in the custody of an agency which provides child welfare services shall not examine, treat or otherwise provide mental health services to the child unless consent has been obtained from the person who is legally responsible for the health care of the child pursuant to NRS 432B.197 and sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act and the policies adopted pursuant thereto.

2. A copy of the written consent required by section 4 of this act must be maintained in the health care record of the child.

Sec. 15. NRS 629.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:

629.031 Except as otherwise provided by a specific statute:

1. "Provider of health care" means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 630, 630A or 633 of NRS, physician assistant, dentist, licensed nurse, dispensing optician, optometrist, practitioner of respiratory care, registered physical therapist, podiatric physician, licensed psychologist, licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed clinical professional counselor, chiropractor, athletic trainer, perfusionist, doctor of Oriental medicine in any form, medical laboratory director or technician, pharmacist or a licensed hospital as the employer of any such person.

2. For the purposes of NRS 629.051, 629.061 and 629.065, *and section 14 of this act*, the term includes a facility that maintains the health care records of patients.

Sec. 16. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

