ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 361–ASSEMBLYMEN OSCARSON; BENITEZ-THOMPSON, ELLISON, GRADY, HARDY, KIRKPATRICK AND SWANK

MARCH 18, 2013

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Directs the Legislative Committee on Health Care to conduct an interim study to determine the benefits and feasibility of providing for the establishment of community paramedicine programs in this State. (BDR S-1040)

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 health care; directing the Legislative Committee on Health Care to conduct an interim study to determine the benefits and feasibility of providing for the establishment of community paramedicine programs in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

This bill directs the Legislative Committee on Health Care to conduct an interim study to determine the benefits and feasibility of providing for the establishment of community paramedicine programs in this State. Such a program is an organized system of services based on local needs provided by emergency medical technicians and paramedics acting in expanded roles under the supervision of physicians.

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

Section 1. 1. The Legislative Committee on Health Care shall conduct an interim study to determine the benefits and feasibility of providing for community paramedicine programs in this State.

2. The Legislative Committee on Health Care shall appoint:

(a) A subcommittee for the study, consisting of members of the Legislative Committee on Health Care or Legislators other than members of the Legislative Committee on Health Care, or both; and

(b) A chair of the subcommittee from among the members of the subcommittee.

3. The study must include, without limitation, an analysis of:

(a) Existing community paramedicine programs within and outside this State to determine the potential for such programs to improve access to health care in rural areas, to reduce emergency room visits for nonemergency purposes, to increase efficiency and reduce costs of health care, to reduce mortality and to improve general health and wellness;

(b) Areas of this State and populations within this State that may benefit from a community paramedicine program, with consideration to the general population distribution, the distribution of persons of differing ages, ethnic groups and socioeconomic statuses, the incidences and prevalence of various medical conditions and the availability of health care using data from hospitals, medical examiners, law enforcement agencies and any other available sources;

(c) Existing laws to determine any necessary changes to statutes and regulations to allow for the establishment of a community paramedicine program in this State;

(d) The infrastructure needed to establish a community paramedicine program in this State, including, without limitation, needs for personnel, training and equipment;

(e) The expected cost of establishing a community paramedicine program in this State;

(f) The manner in which a community paramedicine program would coordinate with other health services, including, without limitation, nursing, home health services and emergency medical services; and

(g) The manner in which to measure the effectiveness of a community paramedicine program.

4. The Legislative Committee on Health Care shall submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the 78th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

5. As used in this section, "community paramedicine" means an organized system of services based on local needs:

(a) Provided by emergency medical technicians and paramedics operating in expanded roles under the supervision of a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS; and

(b) Integrated into the local or regional health care system.

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