

SENATE BILL NO. 450—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARCH 25, 2013

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises the qualifications for certain district health officers. (BDR 40-1081)

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 health; revising the qualifications for certain district health officers; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides for the appointment of a State Health Officer by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services and establishes the qualifications for that position. (NRS 439.090, 439.100) Existing law further creates a health district in a county whose population is 700,000 or more. Such a health district has a health department consisting of a district health officer and a district board of health. (NRS 439.362) Existing law requires the district board of health in such a county to appoint a district health officer for the health district and establishes the qualifications for the district health officer. (NRS 439.368) This bill revises the qualifications of the district health officer, making them the same as the qualifications for the State Health Officer.

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

- Section 1.** NRS 439.368 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 439.368 1. The district board of health shall appoint a district health officer for the health district who shall have full authority as a county health officer in the health district.
2. The district health officer must:
- (a) Be ~~licensed to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine in this State; and~~



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~~(b) Have at least the following additional education and experience:~~

~~(1) A master's degree in public health, health care administration, public administration, business administration or a related field; and~~

~~(2) Ten years of management experience in an administrative position in a local, state or national public health department, program, organization or agency; } a citizen of the United States;~~

(b) Have not less than 5 years of experience in population-based health care; and

(c) Be:

(1) Licensed in good standing or eligible for a license as a physician or administrative physician in Nevada;

(2) Licensed in good standing or eligible for a license as a physician or administrative physician in the District of Columbia or in any state or territory of the United States; or

(3) A physician or administrative physician who has a master's degree or doctoral degree in public health or a related field.

3. The district health officer is entitled to receive a salary fixed by the district board of health and serves at the pleasure of the board.

4. Any clinical program of a district board of health which requires medical assessment must be carried out under the direction of a physician.

5. As used in this section, "population-based health care" means the use of various approaches to medical care for specific groups or populations based upon common demographic characteristics, risk factors or diseases.

Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of section 1 of this act, any person who, on July 1, 2013, is serving as the district health officer in a county whose population is 700,000 or more and who is otherwise qualified to serve as the district health officer on that date may continue to serve in that capacity until his or her successor is appointed by the district board of health.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

