

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 305—ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON

MARCH 13, 2015

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Authorizes and provides for the regulation of community paramedicine services. (BDR 40-167)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 4)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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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; authorizing the holder of a permit to operate an ambulance service, air ambulance service or fire-fighting agency to obtain an endorsement on the permit to allow certain employees and volunteers to provide community paramedicine services; requiring certain health authorities to prepare an annual report concerning the provision of community paramedicine services; repealing a provision which prohibited certain fire-fighting agencies from obtaining a permit to provide intermediate or advanced medical care; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires the operator of an ambulance or air ambulance or a fire-
2 fighting agency that operates vehicles at the scene of an emergency to obtain a
3 permit. (NRS 450B.200, 450B.240, 450B.265) **Section 4** of this bill requires the
4 State Board of Health in a county whose population is less than 700,000 (currently
5 all counties except for Clark County) and the district board of health in a county
6 whose population is 700,000 or more (currently Clark County) to adopt regulations
7 to provide for an endorsement to be placed on the permit to operate those vehicles
8 that allows the holder to provide community paramedicine services. **Section 2** of
9 this bill defines the term “community paramedicine services” as health care
10 services provided to certain patients who do not require emergency medical
11 transportation in a manner that is integrated with the local and regional health care
12 and social services systems. **Section 4** requires such regulations to prescribe the



13 training and qualifications necessary for an emergency medical technician,
14 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic who is employed by or
15 serves as a volunteer for the holder of such an endorsement to provide community
16 paramedicine services and to prescribe the scope of the community paramedicine
17 services that may be provided.

18 **Section 9** of this bill prohibits a person or governmental entity from providing
19 community paramedicine services without a currently valid permit with an
20 endorsement which authorizes the provision of such services and makes a violation
21 a misdemeanor. (NRS 450B.900) **Section 10** of this bill prohibits an emergency
22 medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic from
23 providing community paramedicine services unless the person meets certain
24 requirements and makes a violation a misdemeanor. (NRS 450B.900)

25 **Section 5** of this bill requires each holder of a permit with an endorsement to
26 provide community paramedicine services to submit to the Division of Public and
27 Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services or district
28 board of health, as applicable, (health authority) a quarterly report concerning the
29 effect of providing community paramedicine services. **Section 5** also requires the
30 Division and the district board of health to submit to the Legislature an annual
31 report that summarizes the quarterly reports it receives.

32 Existing law prohibits an agency other than the district board of health in a
33 county whose population is 700,000 or more (currently only Clark County) from
34 issuing a permit authorizing a fire-fighting agency to provide the level of care
35 provided by an advanced medical technician or paramedic to sick or injured
36 persons while transporting those persons to a medical facility. (NRS 450B.1985)

37 **Section 13** of this bill repeals this provision so that a fire-fighting agency located
38 anywhere in this State may obtain such a permit and provide the level of care
39 provided by an advanced medical technician or paramedic to patients being
40 transported to a medical facility on an emergency basis or, if the agency holds an
41 endorsement to provide community paramedicine services, a non-emergency basis.

42 **Sections 3 and 6-8.5** make conforming changes.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 450B of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *“Community paramedicine services” means services*
5 *provided by an emergency medical technician, advanced*
6 *emergency medical technician or paramedic to patients who do*
7 *not require emergency medical transportation and provided in a*
8 *manner that is integrated with the health care and social services*
9 *resources available in the community.*

10 **Sec. 3.** *As used in sections 3, 4 and 5 of this act, unless the*
11 *context otherwise requires, “emergency medical provider” means*
12 *an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical*
13 *technician or paramedic.*

14 **Sec. 4.** *1. The board shall adopt regulations to provide for*
15 *the issuance of an endorsement on a permit which allows an*
16 *emergency medical provider who is employed by or serves as a*



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1 *volunteer for the holder of the permit to provide community*
2 *paramedicine services. Such regulations must establish, without*
3 *limitation:*

4 *(a) The manner in which to apply for an endorsement;*

5 *(b) The qualifications and requirements of a holder of a permit*
6 *to obtain an endorsement;*

7 *(c) The required training and qualifications of an emergency*
8 *medical provider who will provide community paramedicine*
9 *services and the proof necessary to demonstrate such training and*
10 *qualifications;*

11 *(d) The scope of the community paramedicine services that*
12 *may be provided by an emergency medical provider who is*
13 *employed by or serves as a volunteer for the holder of the permit,*
14 *which must not include any services that are outside the scope of*
15 *practice of the emergency medical provider;*

16 *(e) The continuing education requirements or other evidence*
17 *of continued competency for renewal of the endorsement; and*

18 *(f) Such other requirements as the board deems necessary to*
19 *carry out the provisions of sections 3, 4 and 5 of this act.*

20 *2. The holder of a permit may apply for an endorsement to*
21 *provide community paramedicine services by submitting to the*
22 *health authority an application upon forms prescribed by the*
23 *board and in accordance with procedures established by the board.*
24 *The health authority must not approve an application for an*
25 *endorsement or a renewal of an endorsement unless the applicant*
26 *meets the requirements prescribed by the board by regulation*
27 *pursuant to subsection 1. No additional fee may be charged for an*
28 *endorsement.*

29 *3. An endorsement to provide community paramedicine*
30 *services expires on the same date as the permit and is renewable*
31 *annually thereafter at least 30 days before the expiration date.*

32 *4. An emergency medical provider may provide community*
33 *paramedicine services only as an employee of or volunteer for the*
34 *holder of a permit who has obtained an endorsement and only if*
35 *the emergency medical provider possesses the training and*
36 *qualifications required by the board. Any services provided must*
37 *not exceed the scope of practice of the emergency medical*
38 *provider.*

39 *Sec. 5. 1. Each holder of a permit who has obtained an*
40 *endorsement to provide community paramedicine services*
41 *pursuant to section 4 of this act shall submit a quarterly report to*
42 *the health authority that issued the endorsement which must*
43 *include, without limitation:*

44 *(a) Information concerning the community paramedicine*
45 *services that were provided in lieu of emergency medical*



1 *transportation, including, without limitation, the types of services*
2 *provided and the number of persons for whom such services were*
3 *provided;*

4 *(b) The impact of providing community paramedicine services*
5 *on the overall services provided to patients; and*

6 *(c) Such other information as prescribed by the health*
7 *authority or requested by the Legislature or the Legislative*
8 *Committee on Health Care.*

9 2. *On or before February 1 of each year, each health*
10 *authority shall submit a report summarizing the information*
11 *received concerning community paramedicine services pursuant to*
12 *subsection 1 along with a summary of the impact of providing*
13 *such services to patients in that manner to the Director of the*
14 *Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature in*
15 *odd-numbered years or the Legislative Committee on Health Care*
16 *in even-numbered years.*

17 **Sec. 6.** NRS 450B.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 450B.020 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
19 requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 450B.025 to
20 450B.110, inclusive, *and section 2 of this act* have the meanings
21 ascribed to them in those sections.

22 **Sec. 7.** NRS 450B.072 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 450B.072 “Fire-fighting agency” means a fire department or
24 fire protection district of the State or a political subdivision which
25 holds a permit issued pursuant to this chapter. ~~¶The term does not~~
26 ~~include a person or governmental entity, other than a governmental~~
27 ~~entity to whom a permit is issued in accordance with the provisions~~
28 ~~of NRS 450B.1985, which provides transportation of sick or injured~~
29 ~~persons to a medical facility.¶~~

30 **Sec. 8.** NRS 450B.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 450B.100 “Permit” means the permit issued by the health
32 authority under the provisions of this chapter to:

33 1. A person, agency of the State or political subdivision to own
34 or operate an ambulance or air ambulance in the State of Nevada; or

35 2. A fire-fighting agency to provide ~~¶medical¶~~ :

36 *(a) Medical* care by emergency medical technicians, advanced
37 emergency medical technicians or paramedics to sick or injured
38 persons:

39 ~~¶(a)¶~~ *(1)* At the scene of an emergency; or

40 ~~¶(b)¶~~ *(2)* At the scene of an emergency and while transporting
41 those persons to a medical facility ~~¶~~ ; *and*

42 *(b) Community paramedicine services, but only if the fire-*
43 *fighting agency has obtained an endorsement on the permit to*
44 *provide such services pursuant to section 4 of this act.*



1 **Sec. 8.5.** NRS 450B.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 450B.200 1. The health authority may issue a permit for ~~the~~

3 :
4 **(a)** The operation of an ambulance ~~+~~ or an air ambulance ;
5 or ~~+~~

6 **(b)** A vehicle of a fire-fighting agency ~~+~~ :

7 **(1)** At the scene of an emergency ~~+~~ ; and

8 **(2)** *To provide community paramedicine services, but only*
9 *if the holder of the permit has obtained an endorsement on the*
10 *permit to provide such services pursuant to section 4 of this act.*

11 2. Each permit must be evidenced by a card issued to the
12 holder of the permit.

13 3. No permit may be issued unless the applicant is qualified
14 pursuant to the regulations of the board.

15 4. An application for a permit must be made upon forms
16 prescribed by the board and in accordance with procedures
17 established by the board, and must contain the following:

18 (a) The name and address of the owner of the ambulance or air
19 ambulance or of the fire-fighting agency;

20 (b) The name under which the applicant is doing business or
21 proposes to do business, if applicable;

22 (c) A description of each ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle of
23 a fire-fighting agency, including the make, year of manufacture and
24 chassis number, and the color scheme, insignie, name, monogram or
25 other distinguishing characteristics to be used to designate the
26 applicant's ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle;

27 (d) The location and description of the places from which the
28 ambulance, air ambulance or fire-fighting agency intends to operate;
29 and

30 (e) Such other information as the board deems reasonable and
31 necessary to a fair determination of compliance with the provisions
32 of this chapter.

33 5. The board shall establish a reasonable fee for annual
34 permits.

35 6. All permits expire on July 1 following the date of issue, and
36 are renewable annually thereafter upon payment of the fee required
37 by subsection 5 at least 30 days before the expiration date.

38 7. The health authority shall:

39 (a) Revoke, suspend or refuse to renew any permit issued
40 pursuant to this section for violation of any provision of this chapter
41 or of any regulation adopted by the board; or

42 (b) Bring an action in any court for violation of this chapter or
43 the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter,

44 ➔ only after the holder of a permit is afforded an opportunity for a
45 public hearing pursuant to regulations adopted by the board.



1 8. The health authority may suspend a permit if the holder is
2 using an ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle of a fire-fighting
3 agency which does not meet the minimum requirements for
4 equipment as established by the board pursuant to this chapter.

5 9. In determining whether to issue a permit for the operation of
6 an air ambulance pursuant to this section, the health authority:

7 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), may consider
8 the medical aspects of the operation of an air ambulance, including,
9 without limitation, aspects related to patient care; and

10 (b) Shall not consider economic factors, including, without
11 limitation, factors related to the prices, routes or nonmedical
12 services of an air ambulance.

13 10. The issuance of a permit pursuant to this section or NRS
14 450B.210 does not authorize any person or governmental entity to
15 provide those services or to operate any ambulance, air ambulance
16 or vehicle of a fire-fighting agency not in conformity with any
17 ordinance or regulation enacted by any county, municipality or
18 special purpose district.

19 11. A permit issued pursuant to this section is valid throughout
20 the State, whether issued by the Division or a district board of
21 health. An ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle of a fire-fighting
22 agency which has received a permit from the district board of health
23 in a county whose population is 700,000 or more is not required to
24 obtain a permit from the Division, even if the ambulance, air
25 ambulance or vehicle of a fire-fighting agency has routine
26 operations outside the county.

27 12. The Division shall maintain a central registry of all permits
28 issued pursuant to this section, whether issued by the Division or a
29 district board of health.

30 13. The board shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to
31 carry out the provisions of this section.

32 **Sec. 9.** NRS 450B.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 450B.240 1. A person or governmental entity shall not
34 engage in the operation of any ambulance or air ambulance service
35 in this state without a currently valid permit for that service issued
36 by the health authority.

37 2. A fire-fighting agency shall not provide the level of medical
38 care provided by an advanced emergency medical technician or
39 paramedic to sick or injured persons at the scene of an emergency or
40 while transporting those persons to a medical facility without a
41 currently valid permit for that care issued by the health authority.

42 3. *A person or governmental entity shall not provide*
43 *community paramedicine services or represent, advertise or*
44 *otherwise imply that it is authorized to provide community*
45 *paramedicine services without a currently valid permit with an*



1 *endorsement to provide community paramedicine services issued*
2 *by the health authority pursuant to section 4 of this act.*

3 **4.** Nothing in this section precludes the operation of an aircraft
4 in this state in a manner other than as an air ambulance.

5 **Sec. 10.** NRS 450B.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 450B.250 **1.** Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a
7 person shall not serve as an attendant on any ambulance or air
8 ambulance and a firefighter shall not provide the level of medical
9 care provided by an advanced emergency medical technician or
10 paramedic to sick or injured persons at the scene of an emergency or
11 while transporting those persons to a medical facility unless the
12 person holds a currently valid license issued by the health authority
13 under the provisions of this chapter.

14 **2.** *A person shall not provide community paramedicine*
15 *services unless the person:*

16 *(a) Is certified as an emergency medical technician, an*
17 *advanced emergency medical technician or a paramedic;*

18 *(b) Is employed by or serves as a volunteer for a person or*
19 *governmental entity which has a currently valid permit with an*
20 *endorsement to provide community paramedicine services issued*
21 *by the health authority pursuant to section 4 of this act; and*

22 *(c) Meets the qualifications and has satisfied any training*
23 *required by regulations adopted pursuant to section 4 of this act.*

24 **Sec. 11.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
25 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
26 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

27 **Sec. 12.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
28 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
29 provisions of this act.

30 **Sec. 13.** NRS 450B.1985 is hereby repealed.

31 **Sec. 14.** This act becomes effective:

32 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
33 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
34 tasks necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

35 2. On January 1, 2016, for all other purposes.



TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

450B.1985 Exclusive method of issuance; authority of district board of health in certain larger counties to issue; situations in which certain medical care may be provided.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, no permit may be issued pursuant to this chapter authorizing a fire-fighting agency to provide the level of medical care provided by an advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic to sick or injured persons while transporting those persons to a medical facility.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 10 of NRS 450B.200, the district board of health in a county whose population is 700,000 or more may issue a permit pursuant to NRS 450B.200 or 450B.210 authorizing a fire-fighting agency to provide the level of medical care provided by an advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic to sick or injured persons at the scene of an emergency and while transporting those persons to a medical facility.

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