

Assembly Bill No. 425—Committee on
Health and Human Services

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to emergency medical services; revising the composition of the Committee on Emergency Medical Services; making provisions governing providers of health care applicable to persons who are licensed as attendants or certified as emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians or paramedics; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the Committee on Emergency Medical Services, consisting of nine members appointed by the State Board of Health. The Board is required to appoint one member who is a volunteer firefighter. (NRS 450B.151) **Section 1** of this bill requires the Board to appoint a member who is a volunteer for an organization that provides emergency medical services instead of a volunteer firefighter.

Existing law also requires the Board to appoint one member of the Committee who is employed by a fire-fighting agency at which some of the firefighters are employed and some are volunteers. (NRS 450B.151) **Section 1** expands this to a member employed by a fire-fighting agency at which some firefighters and some persons who provide emergency medical services for the agency are employed and some are volunteers.

Existing law defines “provider of health care” for the purpose of provision relating to healing arts as person who practices any of certain health-related professions. (NRS 629.031) Existing law imposes certain requirements upon providers of health care, including requirements for the retention of patient records, requirements for billing, standards for advertisements and criminal penalties for acquiring certain debts. (NRS 629.051, 629.071, 629.076, 629.078) **Section 2** of this bill includes persons who are licensed as attendants or certified as emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians or paramedics in this definition of “provider of health care,” which has the effect of making these requirements applicable to such providers of emergency medical services. Existing law also includes the definition of “provider of health care” by reference in various other provisions, including provisions concerning admissibility of the testimony of hypnotized witnesses, power of attorney, practice during declared emergencies, investigations conducted concerning facilities for long-term care, confidentiality of reports and referrals relating to maternal health, payments by insurance, drug donation programs, release of the results of certain laboratory tests, interpreters and realtime captioning providers and the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange. (NRS 48.039, 162A.790, 415A.210, 427A.145, 442.395, 449.2475, chapter 453B of NRS, NRS 652.193, chapters 656A and 695I of NRS) By expanding the definition of “provider of health care,” this bill expands this definition for those other provisions, thereby including persons who are licensed as attendants or certified as emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians or paramedics as providers of health care for the purposes of those provisions.



EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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

Section 1. NRS 450B.151 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450B.151 1. The Committee on Emergency Medical Services, consisting of nine members appointed by the State Board of Health, is hereby created.

2. Upon request of the State Board of Health, employee associations that represent persons that provide emergency medical services, including, without limitation, physicians and nurses that provide emergency medical services, emergency medical technicians, ambulance attendants, firefighters, fire chiefs and employees of rural hospitals, shall submit to the State Board of Health written nominations for appointments to the Committee.

3. After considering the nominations submitted pursuant to subsection 2, the State Board of Health shall appoint to the Committee:

(a) One member who is a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS and who has experience providing emergency medical services;

(b) One member who is a registered nurse and who has experience providing emergency medical services;

(c) One member who is a volunteer ~~firefighter;~~ *for an organization that provides emergency medical services pursuant to this chapter;*

(d) One member who is employed by a fire-fighting agency at which some of the firefighters *and persons who provide emergency medical services for the agency* are employed and some serve as volunteers;

(e) One member who is employed by an urban fire-fighting agency;

(f) One member who is employed by or serves as a volunteer with a medical facility that is located in a rural area and that provides emergency medical services;

(g) One member who is employed by an organization that provides emergency medical services in an air ambulance and whose duties are closely related to such emergency medical services;

(h) One member who is employed by a privately owned entity that provides emergency medical services; and



(i) One member who is employed by an operator of a service which is:

(1) Provided for the benefit of the employees of an industry who become sick or are injured at the industrial site; and

(2) Staffed by employees who are licensed attendants and perform emergency medical services primarily for the industry.

4. In addition to the members set forth in subsection 3, the following persons are ex officio members of the Committee:

(a) An employee of the Division, appointed by the Administrator of the Division, whose duties relate to administration and enforcement of the provisions of this chapter;

(b) The county health officer appointed pursuant to NRS 439.290 in each county whose population is 100,000 or more, or the county health officer's designee;

(c) A physician who is a member of a committee which consists of directors of trauma centers in this State and who is nominated by that committee; and

(d) A representative of a committee or group which focuses on the provision of emergency medical services to children in this State and who is nominated by that committee or group.

5. The term of each member appointed by the State Board of Health is 2 years. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms but may serve more than two terms if there is a break in service of not less than 2 years.

6. The State Board of Health shall not appoint to the Committee two persons who are employed by or volunteer with the same organization, except the State Board of Health may appoint a person who is employed by or volunteers with the same organization of which a member who serves ex officio is an employee.

7. Each member of the Committee shall appoint an alternate to serve in the member's place if the member is temporarily unable to perform the duties required of him or her pursuant to NRS 450B.151 to 450B.154, inclusive.

8. A position on the Committee that becomes vacant before the end of the term of the member must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 2. 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, occupational



therapist, podiatric physician, licensed psychologist, licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed clinical professional counselor, music therapist, chiropractor, athletic trainer, perfusionist, doctor of Oriental medicine in any form, medical laboratory director or technician, *person who holds a license as an attendant or who is certified as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic pursuant to chapter 450B of NRS*, pharmacist, licensed dietitian or a licensed hospital as the employer of any such person.

2. For the purposes of NRS 629.051, 629.061, 629.065 and 629.077, the term includes a facility that maintains the health care records of patients.

3. For the purposes of NRS 629.400 to 629.490, inclusive, the term includes:

(a) A person who holds a license or certificate issued pursuant to chapter 631 of NRS; and

(b) A person who holds a current license or certificate to practice his or her respective discipline pursuant to the applicable provisions of law of another state or territory of the United States.

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 450B.151, as amended by section 1 of this act, a member of the Committee on Emergency Medical Services who is serving on October 1, 2015, may continue to serve until the expiration of his or her current term. If a position on the Committee becomes vacant on or after October 1, 2015, the vacancy must be filled in the manner provided in NRS 450B.151, as amended by section 1 of this act.

