

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 93—ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON

PREFILED JANUARY 7, 2015

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the continuing education required to renew certain licenses. (BDR 54-27)

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 public health; requiring certain licensed professionals to receive suicide prevention and awareness training in order to renew a license; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law requires psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical professional
2 counselors, marriage and family therapists and social workers to complete certain
3 continuing education as a condition to the renewal of their licenses. (NRS 630.253,
4 633.471, 641.220, 641A.260, 641B.280) This bill requires those professionals to
5 receive at least 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention and awareness as a
6 condition to the renewal of their licenses.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 630.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 630.253 1. The Board shall, as a prerequisite for the:
3 (a) Renewal of a license as a physician assistant; or
4 (b) Biennial registration of the holder of a license to practice
5 medicine,
6 ➤ require each holder to comply with the requirements for
7 continuing education adopted by the Board.
8 2. These requirements:



(a) May provide for the completion of one or more courses of instruction relating to risk management in the performance of medical services.

(b) Must provide for the completion of a course of instruction, within 2 years after initial licensure, relating to the medical consequences of an act of terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction. The course must provide at least 4 hours of instruction that includes instruction in the following subjects:

(1) An overview of acts of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction;

(2) Personal protective equipment required for acts of terrorism;

(3) Common symptoms and methods of treatment associated with exposure to, or injuries caused by, chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear agents;

(4) Syndromic surveillance and reporting procedures for acts of terrorism that involve biological agents; and

(5) An overview of the information available on, and the use of, the Health Alert Network.

(c) Must provide for the completion by a holder of a license to practice medicine who is a psychiatrist certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc., of a course of instruction that provides at least 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention and awareness.

➡ The Board may thereafter determine whether to include in a program of continuing education additional courses of instruction relating to the medical consequences of an act of terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

3. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license who treats or cares for persons who are more than 60 years of age to receive, as a portion of their continuing education, education in geriatrics and gerontology, including such topics as:

(a) The skills and knowledge that the licensee needs to address aging issues;

(b) Approaches to providing health care to older persons, including both didactic and clinical approaches;

(c) The biological, behavioral, social and emotional aspects of the aging process; and

(d) The importance of maintenance of function and independence for older persons.

4. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to practice medicine to receive, as a portion of his or her continuing education, training concerning methods for educating patients about how to effectively manage medications, including, without



1 limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the symptom
2 or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the label
3 attached to the container of the drug.

4 5. A holder of a license to practice medicine may substitute not
5 more than 2 hours of continuing education credits in pain
6 management or addiction care for the purposes of satisfying an
7 equivalent requirement for continuing education in ethics.

8 6. As used in this section:

9 (a) "Act of terrorism" has the meaning ascribed to it in
10 NRS 202.4415.

11 (b) "Biological agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in
12 NRS 202.442.

13 (c) "Chemical agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in
14 NRS 202.4425.

15 (d) "Radioactive agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in
16 NRS 202.4437.

17 (e) "Weapon of mass destruction" has the meaning ascribed to it
18 in NRS 202.4445.

19 **Sec. 2.** NRS 633.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 633.471 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6 and
21 NRS 633.491, every holder of a license issued under this chapter,
22 except a temporary or a special license, may renew the license on or
23 before January 1 of each calendar year after its issuance by:

24 (a) Applying for renewal on forms provided by the Board;

25 (b) Paying the annual license renewal fee specified in this
26 chapter;

27 (c) Submitting a list of all actions filed or claims submitted to
28 arbitration or mediation for malpractice or negligence against the
29 holder during the previous year;

30 (d) Submitting an affidavit to the Board that in the year
31 preceding the application for renewal the holder has attended
32 courses or programs of continuing education approved by the Board
33 totaling a number of hours established by the Board which must not
34 be less than 35 hours nor more than that set in the requirements for
35 continuing medical education of the American Osteopathic
36 Association; and

37 (e) Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.

38 2. The Secretary of the Board shall notify each licensee of the
39 requirements for renewal not less than 30 days before the date of
40 renewal.

41 3. The Board shall request submission of verified evidence of
42 completion of the required number of hours of continuing medical
43 education annually from no fewer than one-third of the applicants
44 for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine or a license
45 to practice as a physician assistant. Upon a request from the Board,



1 an applicant for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic
2 medicine or a license to practice as a physician assistant shall submit
3 verified evidence satisfactory to the Board that in the year preceding
4 the application for renewal the applicant attended courses or
5 programs of continuing medical education approved by the Board
6 totaling the number of hours established by the Board.

7 4. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to
8 practice osteopathic medicine to receive, as a portion of his or her
9 continuing education, training concerning methods for educating
10 patients about how to effectively manage medications, including,
11 without limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the
12 symptom or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the
13 label attached to the container of the drug.

14 5. The Board shall require, as part of the continuing education
15 requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by a
16 holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine of ~~that~~ :

17 (a) At least 2 hours of continuing education credits in ethics,
18 pain management or addiction care ~~that~~ ; and

19 (b) *If the holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine is*
20 *a psychiatrist certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and*
21 *Neurology, Inc., at least 2 hours of continuing education credits*
22 *on suicide prevention and awareness.*

23 6. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the
24 United States Public Health Service are exempt from payment of the
25 annual license renewal fee during their active duty status.

26 **Sec. 3.** NRS 641.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 641.220 1. To renew a license or certificate issued pursuant
28 to this chapter, each person must, on or before the first day of
29 January of each odd-numbered year:

30 (a) Apply to the Board for renewal;

31 (b) Pay the biennial fee for the renewal of a license or
32 certificate;

33 (c) Submit evidence to the Board of completion of the
34 requirements for continuing education; and

35 (d) Submit all information required to complete the renewal.

36 2. Upon renewing his or her license, a psychologist shall
37 declare his or her areas of competence, as determined in accordance
38 with NRS 641.112.

39 3. The Board shall, as a prerequisite for the renewal of a
40 license or certificate, require each holder to comply with the
41 requirements for continuing education adopted by the Board ~~that~~
42 *which must include, without limitation, a requirement that the*
43 *holder receive at least 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention*
44 *and awareness.*



Sec. 4. NRS 641A.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.260 1. To renew a license issued pursuant to this chapter, each person must, on or before the date of expiration of the current license:

(a) Apply to the Board for renewal;

(b) Pay the fee for renewal set by the Board;

(c) Submit evidence to the Board of completion of the requirements for continuing education; and

(d) Submit all information required to complete the renewal.

2. The Board shall, as a prerequisite for the renewal of a license, require each holder to comply with the requirements for continuing education adopted by the Board **H** *which must include, without limitation, a requirement that the holder receive at least 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention and awareness.*

Sec. 5. NRS 641B.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641B.280 1. Every holder of a license issued pursuant to this chapter may renew his or her license annually by:

(a) Applying to the Board for renewal;

(b) Paying the annual renewal fee set by the Board;

(c) Submitting evidence to the Board of completion of the required continuing education; and

(d) Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.

2. The Board shall, as a prerequisite for the renewal of a license, require the holder to comply with the requirements for continuing education adopted by the Board **H** *which must include, without limitation, a requirement that the holder receive at least 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention and awareness.*

Sec. 6. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

