

**Amendment No. 451**

Senate Amendment to Senate Bill No. 327 (BDR 40-1017)

**Proposed by:** Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**Amends:** Summary: No Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

RAE/JRS



Date: 4/14/2015

S.B. No. 327—Revises certain provisions governing air ambulances.

(BDR 40-1017)



## SENATE BILL NO. 327—SENATORS FARLEY, HARRIS AND HARDY

MARCH 16, 2015

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises certain provisions governing air ambulances.  
(BDR 40-1017)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

~

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

AN ACT relating to air ambulances; providing for the minimum number of attendants and qualifications of those attendants for an air ambulance; ~~amending certain permitting requirements for air ambulances;~~ and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law provides for the issuance of a permit for the operation of an air ambulance by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services or by the district board of health of a county whose population is 700,000 or more (currently Clark County). (NRS 450B.200) **Section 3** of this bill provides for the minimum number of attendants and qualifications for those attendants aboard an air ambulance. **Section 5** of this bill revises the training requirements for a licensed physician, registered nurse or licensed physician assistant to be certified as an attendant. **Section 6** of this bill authorizes an emergency medical services registered nurse to perform certain procedures. ~~Section 7 of this bill requires that an air ambulance obtain a permit from the health authority, either the Division or a district board of health, in any jurisdiction in which the air ambulance receives a patient.~~

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

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

**Sec. 2.** *“Emergency medical services registered nurse” means a registered nurse who is issued a certificate to serve as an attendant by the State Board of Nursing pursuant to subsection 8 of NRS 450B.160.*

**Sec. 3. 1.** ~~During~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, during any period in which an air ambulance is used to provide ~~emergency~~ medical transportation services ~~for~~ for which a permit is required, the air ambulance must be staffed with, at a minimum:*

*(a) One primary attendant who:*

*(1) Is an emergency medical services registered nurse;*

(2) Has at least 5 years of experience as a registered nurse, which includes:

(I) Two years of critical care nursing experience if working on a fixed wing air ambulance; or

(II) Three years of critical care nursing experience if working on a rotary wing air ambulance;

(3) Has successfully completed an air ambulance attendant course which includes didactic and clinical components and is approved or in compliance with requirements set by the board; and

(4) Has demonstrated proficiency in basic prehospital skills and advance procedures as specified by the board; and

(b) One secondary attendant who ~~met~~ meets the same qualifications as a primary attendant pursuant to paragraph (a) or:

(1) Is certified as ~~an advanced emergency medical technician or~~ a paramedic;

(2) Has at least 3 years of field experience as ~~an advanced emergency medical technician or~~ a paramedic;

(3) Has successfully completed an air ambulance attendant course which includes didactic and clinical components and is approved or in compliance with requirements set by the board; and

(4) Has demonstrated proficiency in basic prehospital skills and advance procedures as specified by the board.

2. If, as determined by the pilot and medical director of the air ambulance, the weight of the secondary attendant could compromise the performance of the air ambulance, safety or patient care, an air ambulance providing medical transportation services may be staffed with only a primary attendant as described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1.

3. The board may adopt regulations specifying the acceptable documentation of the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1.

4. The health authority may issue a letter of endorsement and identification card to an emergency medical services registered nurse or paramedic who satisfies the requirements of paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1.

Sec. 4. NRS 450B.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

Sec. 5. NRS 450B.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450B.160 1. The health authority may issue licenses to attendants and to firefighters employed by or serving as volunteers with a fire-fighting agency.

2. Each license must be evidenced by a card issued to the holder of the license, is valid for a period not to exceed 2 years and is renewable.

3. An applicant for a license must file with the health authority:

(a) A current, valid certificate evidencing the applicant's successful completion of a program of training as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, if the applicant is applying for a license as an attendant, or, if a volunteer attendant, at a level of skill determined by the board.

(b) A current valid certificate evidencing the applicant's successful completion of a program of training as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, if the applicant is applying for a license as a firefighter with a fire-fighting agency.

(c) A signed statement showing:

(1) The name and address of the applicant;

(2) The name and address of the employer of the applicant; and  
(3) A description of the applicant's duties.  
(d) Such other certificates for training and such other items as the board may specify.

4. The board shall adopt such regulations as it determines are necessary for the issuance, suspension, revocation and renewal of licenses.

5. Each operator of an ambulance or air ambulance and each fire-fighting agency shall annually file with the health authority a complete list of the licensed persons in its service.

6. Licensed physicians, registered nurses and licensed physician assistants may serve as attendants without being licensed under the provisions of this section. A registered nurse who performs emergency care in an ambulance or air ambulance shall perform the care in accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Nursing. A licensed physician assistant who performs emergency care in an ambulance or air ambulance shall perform the care in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Medical Examiners.

7. Each licensed physician, registered nurse and licensed physician assistant who serves as an attendant must have current certification of completion of training in:

(a) Advanced life-support procedures for patients who require cardiac care;

(b) Life-support procedures for pediatric patients who require cardiac care; ~~for~~  
*and*

(c) Life-support procedures for patients with trauma that are administered before the arrival of those patients at a hospital.

➤ The certification must be issued by the Board of Medical Examiners for a physician or licensed physician assistant or by the State Board of Nursing for a registered nurse.

8. The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of Nursing shall issue a certificate pursuant to subsection 7 if the licensed physician, licensed physician assistant or registered nurse attends:

(a) A course offered by a national organization which is nationally recognized for issuing such certification;

(b) Training conducted by the operator of an ambulance or air ambulance; or

(c) Any other course or training.

➤ approved by the Board of Medical Examiners or the State Board of Nursing, whichever is issuing the certification. ~~{The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of Nursing may require certification of training in all three areas set forth in subsection 7 for a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant or registered nurse who primarily serves as an attendant in a county whose population is 700,000 or more.}~~

**Sec. 6.** NRS 450B.197 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450B.197 An attendant or a firefighter who is a paramedic *or emergency medical services registered nurse* may perform any procedure and administer any drug;

1. Approved by regulation of the board; or

2. Authorized pursuant to NRS 450B.1975, if the attendant or firefighter who is a paramedic has obtained an endorsement pursuant to that section.

**Sec. 7.** ~~{NRS 450B.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:~~

~~450B.200 1. The health authority may issue a permit for the operation of an ambulance, an air ambulance or a vehicle of a fire fighting agency at the scene of an emergency.~~

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

~~2. No permit may be issued unless the applicant is qualified pursuant to the regulations of the board.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~7. The health authority shall:~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~11. [A] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 12, a permit issued pursuant to this section is valid throughout the State, whether issued by the Division or a district board of health. An ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle of a fire fighting agency which has received a permit from the district board of health in a county whose population is 700,000 or more is not required to obtain a permit from the Division, even if the ambulance, air ambulance or vehicle of a fire fighting agency has routine operations outside the county.~~

~~12. An air ambulance receiving a patient in a county whose population is 700,000 or more must obtain a permit from the district board of health in that county. An air ambulance receiving a patient in any other county must obtain a permit from the Division.~~

~~13. The Division shall maintain a central registry of all permits issued pursuant to this section, whether issued by the Division or a district board of health.~~

~~14. The board shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.~~ **(Deleted by amendment.)**

**Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on ~~July 1, 2015.~~ **January 1, 2016.**