

SENATE BILL NO. 363—SENATORS KIHUEN, PARKS, WOODHOUSE,
ATKINSON, SPEARMAN; DENIS, FORD AND MANENDO

MARCH 16, 2015

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Establishes a statewide mental health crisis hotline.
(BDR 39-881)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 mental health; requiring the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a toll-free telephone number to assist any person in this State who is experiencing or knows someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes certain duties of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services concerning mental health in this State. (NRS 433.331-433.374) This bill requires the Division to establish a toll-free telephone number that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist any person in this State who is experiencing or who knows someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis. Persons who staff the telephone number are required to have training concerning the management of a mental health crisis and prevention of suicide. They must also have access to providers of emergency medical services and persons professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health who can respond to a mental health crisis anywhere in this State. Finally, this bill requires the Division to establish a database of mental health resources in this State, from which persons who staff the telephone number may make referrals.



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

Section 1. Chapter 433 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Division shall establish a toll-free telephone number to assist any person in this State who is experiencing or knows someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis. The telephone number must be:

(a) Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and

(b) Staffed by persons who have received training approved by the Division concerning the management of a mental health crisis and prevention of suicide.

2. The persons who staff the telephone number established pursuant to subsection 1 must:

(a) Have access to the database established pursuant to subsection 3 and be authorized to provide referrals to the mental health resources listed in the database.

(b) Have immediate access to providers of emergency medical services and, to the extent practicable, persons professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health who are able to quickly respond to a mental health crisis that may occur at any time or at any location in this State.

3. The Division shall establish and maintain a comprehensive database of information on mental health resources available in each county in this State, including, without limitation, mental health facilities, persons professionally qualified in the field of psychiatric mental health, programs of community-based or outpatient services, medical facilities, facilities for the dependent, providers of supported living arrangement services, programs of treatment of substance abuse and other available resources useful to a person experiencing a mental health crisis.

4. The Division may adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

5. As used in this section:

(a) "Facility for the dependent" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0045.

(b) "Medical facility" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0151.

(c) "Program of community-based or outpatient services" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 433A.019.

(d) "Provider of emergency medical services" means an operator of an ambulance and each fire-fighting agency which has a permit to operate pursuant to chapter 450B of NRS and



1 *which provides transportation for persons in need of emergency*
2 *services and care to hospitals.*

3 (e) *“Provider of supported living arrangement services” means*
4 *a natural person who, or a partnership, firm, corporation,*
5 *association, state or local governmental or agency thereof that,*
6 *has been issued a certificate pursuant to NRS 435.3305 to*
7 *435.339, inclusive, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.*

