ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 284–ASSEMBLYWOMEN WOODBURY AND TITUS

MARCH 14, 2017

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR HARDY

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to physician assistants. (BDR 54-728)

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

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

AN ACT relating to professions; providing for the licensure and regulation of physician assistants by the Board of Medical Examiners rather than by the Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine; authorizing a physician assistant who is licensed in this State or in another state or territory of the United States to provide voluntary health care service in this State in association with a sponsoring organization without the supervision of a supervising physician; creating the Committee on Physician Assistants appointed by the Board of Medical Examiners; requiring the Committee to review and provide recommendations to the Board of Medical Examiners on each application for licensure as a physician assistant; authorizing a physician assistant to render medical care without the supervision of a supervising physician when responding to an emergency or disaster; revising provisions relating to the licensure of physician assistants by the Board of Medical Examiners; designating physician assistants as primary care providers under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.





Legislative Counsel's Digest:

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Existing law authorizes a provider of health care who is licensed or certified in this State or another state or territory of the United States to provide voluntary health care service in this State without charge to the patient if the service is provided in association with a sponsoring organization that is registered with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services. (NRS 629.450) **Section 1** of this bill authorizes a physician assistant to provide such voluntary health care service without the supervision of a supervising physician. **Section 7** of this bill authorizes a physician assistant to perform medical services without the supervision of a supervising physician when the rendering of such medical services is in response to an emergency or disaster, as declared by a governmental entity.

Existing law generally provides for the regulation of physician assistants in this State by the Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine. (Chapters 630 and 633 of NRS) Section 108 of this bill repeals the provisions in chapter 633 of NRS that authorize the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine to license, regulate and discipline physician assistants and, instead, sections 9 and 10 of this bill provide for the Board of Medical Examiners to license, regulate and discipline physician assistants. Section 4 of this bill creates the Committee on Physician Assistants, consisting of seven members appointed by the Board of Medical Examiners. Section 4 requires the Committee to review all applications for a license as a physician assistant and make a recommendation to the Board of Medical Examiners on the approval of such applications. Section 13 of this bill authorizes the Board to approve any application for a license as a physician assistant if the applicant is otherwise qualified and the Committee recommends approval of the application. Section 9 removes provisions that allowed the Board of Medical Examiners to deem a person's general education and practical training sufficient for licensure as a physician assistant. Section 10 authorizes an osteopathic physician to be a supervising physician pursuant to the provisions of chapter 630 of NRS. Sections 14 and 15 of this bill remove the requirement for an applicant for a license by endorsement to practice as a physical therapist to have a certification in a specialty recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties.

Section 5 of this bill authorizes a physician assistant to request to be placed on inactive status if the physician assistant will not be practicing as a physician assistant in this State. Sections 16, 53, 69, 70 and 98-105 of this bill designate physician assistants as primary care providers for various programs and insurance provisions in this State. Sections 18-52, 54-68 and 71-97 of this bill make conforming changes.

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

Section 1. NRS 629.450 is hereby amended to read as follows: 629.450 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary and except as otherwise provided in this section, a provider of health care may provide voluntary health care service in this State in association with a sponsoring organization.

2. A provider of health care shall not provide voluntary health care service in this State if:





- (a) The professional license or certificate of the provider of health care is suspended or revoked, or has been suspended or revoked within the immediately preceding 5 years, pursuant to disciplinary proceedings in this State or in any other state or territory of the United States;
- (b) [The] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the voluntary health care service provided is outside the scope of practice authorized by the professional license or certificate of the provider of health care; or
- (c) The provider of health care has not actively practiced his or her profession continuously for the immediately preceding 3 years.
- A provider of health care who provides voluntary health care service pursuant to this section shall not accept compensation of any type, directly or indirectly, or any other benefit or consideration from any person or other source for the provision of the service.
- A physician assistant may provide voluntary health care services in association with a sponsoring organization without direct supervision from a supervising physician.
- Sec. 2. Chapter 630 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of this act
- Sec. 3. "Committee" means the Committee on Physician Assistants created by section 4 of this act.
- Sec. 4. 1. The Committee on Physician Assistants is hereby created, consisting of seven members appointed by the Board.
 - The Committee consists of:
 - (a) Four physician assistants who are licensed by the Board;
- (b) One physician who holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine pursuant to this chapter;
- (c) One physician who holds an unrestricted license to practice osteopathic medicine pursuant to chapter 633 of NRS; and
 - (d) One member of the general public.
- 33 3. The term of office of each member of the Committee is 4 34 vears.
 - The Committee shall meet at least once every 3 months. At 4. the first regular meeting of each calendar year, the Committee shall elect from its members a Chair. The Chair or his or her designee shall represent the Committee at all meetings of the Board.
 - 5. A majority of the Committee constitutes a quorum, and a vote of the majority of the members present is all that is necessary to transact any business before the Committee.
 - The Committee shall:
- 44 (a) Advise the Board on all matters relating to the practice, licensure and regulation of physician assistants;



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(b) Review all applications for a license as a physician assistant submitted to the Board and make recommendations to the Board on the approval of such applications; and

(c) Assist in any disciplinary proceeding involving the license

of a physician assistant.

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- 7. When reviewing applications for licensure pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 6, the Committee shall allow the director, or his or her designee, of each academic program for physician assistants approved by the Board at an institution of higher education in this State to sit as an ex officio nonvoting member of the Committee.
- Sec. 5. 1. A person who holds a license as a physician assistant may request to be placed on inactive status by notifying the Board in writing on a form prescribed by the Board.
- 2. A physician assistant who has been placed on inactive status:
- (a) Shall not perform medical services as a physician assistant; and
- 19 (b) Is exempt from paying the biennial registration fee 20 imposed by the Board pursuant to NRS 630.268 during the period 21 for which the physician assistant is on inactive status.
 - 3. Before resuming the performance of medical services in this State, a physician assistant placed on inactive status must:
 - (a) Notify the Board in writing of his or her intent to resume the performance of medical services as a physician assistant in this State:
 - (b) Pay the applicable fee for biennial registration; and
 - (c) Meet all other criteria for reactivating his or her license in accordance with any regulations adopted by the Board pursuant to NRS 630.275.
 - Sec. 6. 1. A person who is qualified under the regulations of the Board to perform medical services under the supervision of a supervising physician, but does not possess an active license from the Board may use the term "physician assistant" or any other term or abbreviation indicating or implying that he or she is a physician assistant.
 - 2. A person using the term "physician assistant" or any other term or abbreviation indicating or implying that he or she is a physician assistant pursuant to subsection 1 shall not perform medical services as a physician assistant.
 - Sec. 7. 1. A physician assistant licensed under the provisions of this chapter who is responding to a need for medical care created by an emergency or disaster, as declared by an applicable governmental entity, may render emergency care that is directly related to the emergency or disaster without the





supervision of a supervising physician, as otherwise required by this chapter. The provisions of this subsection apply only for the duration of the emergency or disaster.

- 2. A physician assistant who performs voluntary and gratuitous medical services without direct supervision from a supervising physician pursuant to subsection 1 is immune from civil liability for damages arising from or relating to the medical services performed if the damages are caused by an act or omission that constitutes simple negligence.
- 3. A supervising physician who supervises a physician assistant who is rendering emergency care that is directly related to an emergency or disaster, as described in subsection 1, is not required to meet the requirements set forth in this chapter for such supervision.
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 630.005 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.005 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 630.007 to 630.026, inclusive, *and section 3 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 630.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.015 "Physician assistant" means a person who is a graduate of an academic program approved by the Board, [or] who [, by general education, practical training and experience determined to be satisfactory by the Board,] is qualified to perform medical services under the supervision of a supervising physician and who has been issued a license by the Board.
 - **Sec. 10.** NRS 630.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.025 "Supervising physician" means an active physician licensed *pursuant to this chapter or chapter 633 of NRS* and in good standing in the State of Nevada who supervises a physician assistant.
 - **Sec. 11.** NRS 630.047 is hereby amended to read as follows: 630.047 1. This chapter does not apply to:
- (a) A medical officer, [or] perfusionist, [or] practitioner of respiratory care or physician assistant of the Armed Forces or a medical officer, [or] perfusionist, [or] practitioner of respiratory care or physician assistant of any division or department of the United States in the discharge of his or her official duties, including, without limitation, providing medical care in a hospital in accordance with an agreement entered into pursuant to NRS 449.2455;
- (b) Physicians who are called into this State, other than on a regular basis, for consultation with or assistance to a physician licensed in this State, and who are legally qualified to practice in the state where they reside;





- (c) Physicians who are legally qualified to practice in the state where they reside and come into this State on an irregular basis to:
- (1) Obtain medical training approved by the Board from a physician who is licensed in this State; or
- (2) Provide medical instruction or training approved by the Board to physicians licensed in this State;
- (d) Any person permitted to practice any other healing art under this title who does so within the scope of that authority, or healing by faith or Christian Science;
- (e) The performance of medical services by a student as part of an academic program for physician assistants that is approved by the Board, or is recognized by a national organization which is approved by the Board to review such programs, if the student is enrolled in the program and performs medical services only at the direction of a supervising physician;
- (f) The practice of respiratory care by a student as part of a program of study in respiratory care that is approved by the Board, or is recognized by a national organization which is approved by the Board to review such programs, if the student is enrolled in the program and provides respiratory care only under the supervision of a practitioner of respiratory care;
 - (g) The practice of respiratory care by a student who:
- (1) Is enrolled in a clinical program of study in respiratory care which has been approved by the Board;
- (2) Is employed by a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151; and
- (3) Provides respiratory care to patients who are not in a critical medical condition or, in an emergency, to patients who are in a critical medical condition and a practitioner of respiratory care is not immediately available to provide that care and the student is directed by a physician to provide respiratory care under the supervision of the physician until a practitioner of respiratory care is available:
- (g) (h) The practice of respiratory care by a person on himself or herself or gratuitous respiratory care provided to a friend or a member of a person's family if the provider of the care does not represent himself or herself as a practitioner of respiratory care;
- [(h)] (i) A person who is employed by a physician and provides respiratory care or services as a perfusionist under the supervision of that physician;
- (i) The maintenance of medical equipment for perfusion or respiratory care that is not attached to a patient; and
- (i) A person who installs medical equipment for respiratory care that is used in the home and gives instructions regarding the use of that equipment if the person is trained to





provide such services and is supervised by a provider of health care who is acting within the authorized scope of his or her practice.

- 2. This chapter does not repeal or affect any statute of Nevada regulating or affecting any other healing art.
 - 3. This chapter does not prohibit:

- (a) Gratuitous services outside of a medical school or medical facility by a person who is not a physician, perfusionist, physician assistant or practitioner of respiratory care in cases of emergency.
 - (b) The domestic administration of family remedies.

Sec. 12. NRS 630.271 is hereby amended to read as follows: 630.271 1. [A] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 629.450 and section 7 of this act, a physician assistant may perform such medical services as the physician assistant is authorized to perform by his or her supervising physician.

- 2. The Board and supervising physician shall limit the authority of a physician assistant to prescribe controlled substances to those schedules of controlled substances that the supervising physician is authorized to prescribe pursuant to state and federal law.
- 3. A physician assistant is responsible for any medical services he or she performs, unless the physician assistant is acting under direct supervision of his or her supervising physician.
 - Sec. 13. NRS 630.273 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.273 1. The Board may issue a license to an applicant who:
- (a) Who is qualified under the regulations of the Board to perform medical services under the supervision of a supervising physician []; and
- (b) Whose application was recommended for approval by the Committee.
- 2. The application for a license as a physician assistant must include all information required to complete the application.
 - **Sec. 14.** NRS 630.2751 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.2751 1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant \(\frac{1}{12} \).
- (a) Holds holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to practice as a physician assistant in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States. [; and]
- (b) Is certified in a specialty recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties.]
- 2. An applicant for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Board with his or her application:





- (a) Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:
 - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
- (2) Is a citizen of the United States or otherwise has the legal right to work in the United States;
- (3) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license to practice as a physician assistant; and
- (4) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States:
- (b) A complete set of fingerprints and written permission authorizing the Board to forward the fingerprints in the manner provided in NRS 630.167;
- (c) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct; and
 - (d) Any other information required by the Board.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant pursuant to this section, the Board shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Board to consider the application. Unless the Board denies the application for good cause, the Board shall approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant to the applicant not later than:
 - (a) Forty-five days after receiving the application; or
- (b) Ten days after the Board receives a report on the applicant's background based on the submission of the applicant's fingerprints,

 → whichever occurs later.
 - 4. A license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by the President and Executive Director of the Board. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the Board.
 - **Sec. 15.** NRS 630.2752 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 630.2752 1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant:
- (a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to practice as a physician assistant in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; *and*
- (b) [Is certified in a specialty recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties; and





- (e) Is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran.
- 2. An applicant for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Board with his or her application:
 - (a) Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:
 - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
- (2) Is a citizen of the United States or otherwise has the legal right to work in the United States;
- (3) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or the state or territory in which the applicant holds a license to practice as a physician assistant; and
- (4) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States:
- (b) A complete set of fingerprints and written permission authorizing the Board to forward the fingerprints in the manner provided in NRS 630.167;
- (c) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct; and
 - (d) Any other information required by the Board.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant pursuant to this section, the Board shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Board to consider the application. Unless the Board denies the application for good cause, the Board shall approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant to the applicant not later than:
- (a) Forty-five days after receiving all the additional information required by the Board to complete the application; or
- (b) Ten days after the Board receives a report on the applicant's background based on the submission of the applicant's fingerprints,

 → whichever occurs later.
- 4. A license by endorsement to practice as a physician assistant may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by the President and Executive Director of the Board. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the Board.
- 5. At any time before making a final decision on an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section, the Board may grant a provisional license authorizing an applicant to practice as a physician assistant in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.





- 1 6. As used in this section, "veteran" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005.
 - **Sec. 16.** NRS 630.3745 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 630.3745 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a physician shall not allow a person to perform or participate in any activity under the supervision of the physician for the purpose of receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine, including, without limitation, clinical observation and contact with patients, unless the person is enrolled in good standing at:
 - (a) A medical school that is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges or their successor organizations; or
 - (b) A school of osteopathic medicine, as defined in NRS 633.121.
 - 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to a physician who supervises an activity performed by a person for the purpose of receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine if:
 - (a) The activity takes place:

- (1) In a primary care practice that is located in an area that has been designated by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services as a health professional shortage area pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 254e; and
 - (2) Entirely under the supervision of the physician; and
- (b) The physician is not currently supervising any other person who is receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine.
- 30 3. As used in this section, "primary care practice" means a health care practice operated by one or more physicians *or physician assistants* who practice in the area of family medicine, internal medicine or pediatrics.
 - Sec. 17. NRS 630.400 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 630.400 1. It is unlawful for any person to:
 - (a) Present to the Board as his or her own the diploma, license or credentials of another;
 - (b) Give either false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board;
 - (c) Practice medicine, perfusion or respiratory care under a false or assumed name or falsely personate another licensee;
 - (d) Except as otherwise provided by a specific statute, practice medicine, perfusion or respiratory care without being licensed under this chapter;





(e) Hold himself or herself out as a perfusionist or use any other term indicating or implying that he or she is a perfusionist without being licensed by the Board;

(f) [Hold] Except as otherwise provided in section 6 of this act, hold himself or herself out as a physician assistant or use any other term or abbreviation indicating or implying that he or she is a physician assistant without being licensed by the Board; or

(g) Hold himself or herself out as a practitioner of respiratory care or use any other term indicating or implying that he or she is a practitioner of respiratory care without being licensed by the Board.

- 2. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to NRS 200.830 or 200.840, a person who violates any provision of subsection 1:
- (a) If no substantial bodily harm results, is guilty of a category D felony: or
- (b) If substantial bodily harm results, is guilty of a category C felony.
 - → and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - 3. In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, if the Board determines that a person has committed any act described in subsection 1, the Board may:
 - (a) Issue and serve on the person an order to cease and desist until the person obtains from the Board the proper license or otherwise demonstrates that he or she is no longer in violation of subsection 1. An order to cease and desist must include a telephone number with which the person may contact the Board.
 - (b) Issue a citation to the person. A citation issued pursuant to this paragraph must be in writing, describe with particularity the nature of the violation and inform the person of the provisions of this paragraph. Each activity in which the person is engaged constitutes a separate offense for which a separate citation may be issued. To appeal a citation, the person must submit a written request for a hearing to the Board not later than 30 days after the date of issuance of the citation.
- (c) Assess against the person an administrative fine of not more than \$5,000.
- (d) Impose any combination of the penalties set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 632.017 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 632.017 "Practice of practical nursing" means the performance of selected acts in the care of the ill, injured or infirm under the direction of a registered professional nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, a licensed dentist or a licensed podiatric physician, not requiring the substantial





specialized skill, judgment and knowledge required in professional nursing.

Sec. 19. NRS 632.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.018 "Practice of professional nursing" means the performance of any act in the observation, care and counsel of the ill, injured or infirm, in the maintenance of health or prevention of illness of others, in the supervision and teaching of other personnel, in the administration of medications and treatments as prescribed by an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, a licensed dentist or a licensed podiatric physician, requiring substantial specialized judgment and skill based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical and social science, but does not include acts of medical diagnosis or prescription of therapeutic or corrective measures.

Sec. 20. NRS 632.472 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.472 1. The following persons shall report in writing to the Executive Director of the Board any conduct of a licensee or holder of a certificate which constitutes a violation of the provisions of this chapter:

- (a) Any physician, dentist, dental hygienist, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatric physician, medical examiner, resident, intern, professional or practical nurse, nursing assistant, medication aidecertified, perfusionist, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, alcohol or drug abuse counselor, music therapist, driver of an ambulance, paramedic or other person providing medical services licensed or certified to practice in this State.
- (b) Any personnel of a medical facility or facility for the dependent engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an administrator, manager or other person in charge of a medical facility or facility for the dependent upon notification by a member of the staff of the facility.
 - (c) A coroner.
- (d) Any person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide personal care services in the home.
- (e) Any person who operates, who is employed by or who contracts to provide services for an intermediary service organization as defined in NRS 449.4304.
- (f) Any person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide nursing in the home.
- (g) Any employee of the Department of Health and Human Services.





- (h) Any employee of a law enforcement agency or a county's office for protective services or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
- (i) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for older persons.
- (j) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding the abuse, neglect or exploitation of an older person and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.
 - (k) Any social worker.

- (l) Any person who operates or is employed by a community health worker pool or with whom a community health worker pool contracts to provide the services of a community health worker, as defined in NRS 449.0027.
- (m) Any person who operates or is employed by a peer support recovery organization.
- 2. Every physician who, as a member of the staff of a medical facility or facility for the dependent, has reason to believe that a nursing assistant or medication aide certified has engaged in conduct which constitutes grounds for the denial, suspension or revocation of a certificate shall notify the superintendent, manager or other person in charge of the facility. The superintendent, manager or other person in charge shall make a report as required in subsection 1.
 - 3. A report may be filed by any other person.
- 4. Any person who in good faith reports any violation of the provisions of this chapter to the Executive Director of the Board pursuant to this section is immune from civil liability for reporting the violation.
 - 5. As used in this section:
- (a) "Agency to provide personal care services in the home" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0021.
- (b) "Community health worker pool" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0028.
- 35 (c) "Peer support recovery organization" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.01563.
 - **Sec. 21.** NRS 633.071 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.071 "Malpractice" means failure on the part of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill ordinarily exercised by osteopathic physicians [or physician assistants] in good standing in the community in which he or she practices.
 - Sec. 22. NRS 633.075 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.075 1. "Medical assistant" means a person who:





- (a) Performs clinical tasks under the supervision of an osteopathic physician or physician assistant [;] licensed pursuant to chapter 630 of NRS; and
- (b) Does not hold a license, certificate or registration issued by a professional licensing or regulatory board in this State to perform such clinical tasks.
- 2. The term does not include a person who performs only administrative, clerical, executive or other nonclinical tasks.
 - **Sec. 23.** NRS 633.131 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.131 1. "Unprofessional conduct" includes:
- (a) Knowingly or willfully making a false or fraudulent statement or submitting a forged or false document in applying for a license to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant,] or in applying for the renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine. [or to practice as a physician assistant.]
- (b) Failure of a person who is licensed to practice osteopathic medicine to identify himself or herself professionally by using the term D.O., osteopathic physician, doctor of osteopathy or a similar term.
- (c) Directly or indirectly giving to or receiving from any person, corporation or other business organization any fee, commission, rebate or other form of compensation for sending, referring or otherwise inducing a person to communicate with an osteopathic physician in his or her professional capacity or for any professional services not actually and personally rendered, except as otherwise provided in subsection 2.
- (d) Employing, directly or indirectly, any suspended or unlicensed person in the practice of osteopathic medicine or in practice as a physician assistant, or the aiding or abetting of any unlicensed person to practice osteopathic medicine or to practice as a physician assistant.
- (e) Advertising the practice of osteopathic medicine in a manner which does not conform to the guidelines established by regulations of the Board.
 - (f) Engaging in any:
- (1) Professional conduct which is intended to deceive or which the Board by regulation has determined is unethical; or
- (2) Medical practice harmful to the public or any conduct detrimental to the public health, safety or morals which does not constitute gross or repeated malpractice or professional incompetence.
- (g) Administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled substance or any dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS,





otherwise than in the course of legitimate professional practice or as authorized by law.

- (h) Habitual drunkenness or habitual addiction to the use of a controlled substance.
- (i) Performing, assisting in or advising an unlawful abortion or the injection of any liquid silicone substance into the human body, other than the use of silicone oil to repair a retinal detachment.
- (j) Knowingly or willfully disclosing a communication privileged pursuant to a statute or court order.
- (k) Knowingly or willfully disobeying regulations of the State Board of Health, the State Board of Pharmacy or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.
- (1) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any prohibition made in this chapter.
- (m) Failure of a licensee to maintain timely, legible, accurate and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient.
- (n) Making alterations to the medical records of a patient that the licensee knows to be false.
- (o) Making or filing a report which the licensee knows to be false.
- (p) Failure of a licensee to file a record or report as required by law, or knowingly or willfully obstructing or inducing any person to obstruct such filing.
- (q) Failure of a licensee to make medical records of a patient available for inspection and copying as provided by NRS 629.061.
- (r) Providing false, misleading or deceptive information to the Board in connection with an investigation conducted by the Board.
 - 2. It is not unprofessional conduct:
- (a) For persons holding valid licenses to practice osteopathic medicine issued pursuant to this chapter to practice osteopathic medicine in partnership under a partnership agreement or in a corporation or an association authorized by law, or to pool, share, divide or apportion the fees and money received by them or by the partnership, corporation or association in accordance with the partnership agreement or the policies of the board of directors of the corporation or association;
- (b) For two or more persons holding valid licenses to practice osteopathic medicine issued pursuant to this chapter to receive adequate compensation for concurrently rendering professional care to a patient and dividing a fee if the patient has full knowledge of this division and if the division is made in proportion to the services performed and the responsibility assumed by each person; or





- (c) For a person licensed to practice osteopathic medicine pursuant to the provisions of this chapter to form an association or other business relationship with an optometrist pursuant to the provisions of NRS 636.373.
 - **Sec. 24.** NRS 633.151 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.151 The purpose of licensing osteopathic physicians [and physician assistants] is to protect the public health and safety and the general welfare of the people of this State. Any license issued pursuant to this chapter is a revocable privilege, and a holder of such a license does not acquire thereby any vested right.
 - **Sec. 25.** NRS 633.286 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.286 1. On or before February 15 of each odd-numbered year, the Board shall submit to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the next regular session of the Legislature a written report compiling:
- (a) Disciplinary action taken by the Board during the previous biennium against osteopathic physicians [and physician assistants] for malpractice or negligence;
- (b) Information reported to the Board during the previous biennium pursuant to NRS 633.526, 633.527, subsections 3 and 6 of NRS 633.533 and NRS 690B.250 and 690B.260; and
- (c) Information reported to the Board during the previous biennium pursuant to NRS 633.524, including, without limitation, the number and types of surgeries performed by each holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine and the occurrence of sentinel events arising from such surgeries, if any.
- 2. The report must include only aggregate information for statistical purposes and exclude any identifying information related to a particular person.
 - Sec. 26. NRS 633.301 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.301 1. The Board shall keep a record of its proceedings relating to licensing and disciplinary actions. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the record must be open to public inspection at all reasonable times and contain the name, known place of business and residence, and the date and number of the license of every osteopathic physician [and every physician assistant] licensed under this chapter.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section and NRS 239.0115, a complaint filed with the Board, all documents and other information filed with the complaint and all documents and other information compiled as a result of an investigation conducted to determine whether to initiate disciplinary action against a person are confidential, unless the person submits a written statement to the Board requesting that such documents and information be made public records.





- 3. The charging documents filed with the Board to initiate disciplinary action pursuant to chapter 622A of NRS and all other documents and information considered by the Board when determining whether to impose discipline are public records.
- 4. The Board shall, to the extent feasible, communicate or cooperate with or provide any documents or other information to any other licensing board or any other agency that is investigating a person, including, without limitation, a law enforcement agency.
 - **Sec. 27.** NRS 633.305 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 10 633.305 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 633.399 [,] and 11 633.400: [, 633.4335 and 633.4336:]
 - 1. Every applicant for a license shall:
 - (a) File an application with the Board in the manner prescribed by regulations of the Board;
 - (b) Submit verified proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant meets any age, citizenship and educational requirements prescribed by this chapter; and
 - (c) Pay in advance to the Board the application and initial license fee specified in NRS 633.501.
 - 2. An application filed with the Board pursuant to subsection 1 must include all information required to complete the application.
 - 3. The Board may hold hearings and conduct investigations into any matter related to the application and, in addition to the proofs required by subsection 1, may take such further evidence and require such other documents or proof of qualifications as it deems proper.
 - 4. The Board may reject an application if the Board has cause to believe that any credential or information submitted by the applicant is false, misleading, deceptive or fraudulent.
 - **Sec. 28.** NRS 633.3619 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.3619 The Board shall not issue or renew a license to practice osteopathic medicine [or as a physician assistant] unless the applicant for issuance or renewal of the license attests to knowledge of and compliance with the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concerning the prevention of transmission of infectious agents through safe and appropriate injection practices.
 - Sec. 29. NRS 633.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.471 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 8 and NRS 633.491, every holder of a license issued under this chapter, except a temporary or a special license, may renew the license on or before January 1 of each calendar year after its issuance by:
 - (a) Applying for renewal on forms provided by the Board;
- (b) Paying the annual license renewal fee specified in this chapter;





- (c) Submitting a list of all actions filed or claims submitted to arbitration or mediation for malpractice or negligence against the holder during the previous year;
- (d) Submitting evidence to the Board that in the year preceding the application for renewal the holder has attended courses or programs of continuing education approved by the Board in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board totaling a number of hours established by the Board which must not be less than 35 hours nor more than that set in the requirements for continuing medical education of the American Osteopathic Association; and
 - (e) Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.
- 2. The Secretary of the Board shall notify each licensee of the requirements for renewal not less than 30 days before the date of renewal.
- 3. The Board shall request submission of verified evidence of completion of the required number of hours of continuing medical education annually from no fewer than one-third of the applicants for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine. For a license to practice as a physician assistant. Upon a request from the Board, an applicant for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine for a license to practice as a physician assistant shall submit verified evidence satisfactory to the Board that in the year preceding the application for renewal the applicant attended courses or programs of continuing medical education approved by the Board totaling the number of hours established by the Board.
- 4. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to practice osteopathic 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 limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the symptom or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the label attached to the container of the drug.
- 5. The Board shall require, as part of the continuing education requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by a holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine of:
- (a) At least 2 hours of continuing education credits in ethics, pain management or addiction care; and
- (b) If the holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine is a psychiatrist, at least 2 hours of continuing education credits on clinically-based suicide prevention and awareness.
- 6. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine, other than a psychiatrist, to receive as a portion of his or her continuing education training concerning suicide, including, without limitation, such topics as:





- (a) The skills and knowledge that the licensee needs to detect behaviors that may lead to suicide, including, without limitation, post-traumatic stress disorder;
- (b) Approaches to engaging other professionals in suicide intervention; and
- (c) The detection of suicidal thoughts and ideations and the prevention of suicide.
- 7. A holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine may substitute not more than 2 hours of continuing education credits in the detection of suicidal thoughts and ideations, and the intervention and prevention of suicide for the purposes of satisfying an equivalent requirement for continuing education in ethics.
- 8. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the United States Public Health Service are exempt from payment of the annual license renewal fee during their active duty status.

Sec. 30. NRS 633.473 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 633.473 The Board may, by regulation, require each osteopathic physician for physician assistant who is registered to dispense controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled substances during each period of licensure. Any licensee may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any continuing education requirement established by the Board.
 - **Sec. 31.** NRS 633.491 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.491 1. A licensee who retires from practice is not required annually to renew his or her license after filing with the Board an affidavit stating the date on which he or she retired from practice and any other evidence that the Board may require to verify the retirement.
- 2. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant who retires from practice and who desires to return to practice may apply to renew his or her license by paying all back annual license renewal fees from the date of retirement and submitting verified evidence satisfactory to the Board that the licensee has attended continuing education courses or programs approved by the Board which total:
- (a) Twenty-five hours if the licensee has been retired 1 year or less.
- (b) Fifty hours within 12 months of the date of the application if the licensee has been retired for more than 1 year.
- 3. A licensee who wishes to have a license placed on inactive status must provide the Board with an affidavit stating the date on which the licensee will cease the practice of osteopathic medicine for cease to practice as a physician assistant in Nevada and any other evidence that the Board may require. The Board shall place the license of the licensee on inactive status upon receipt of:





- (a) The affidavit required pursuant to this subsection; and
- (b) Payment of the inactive license fee prescribed by NRS 633.501.
- 4. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant whose license has been placed on inactive status:
 - (a) Is not required to annually renew the license.
- (b) Shall annually pay the inactive license fee prescribed by NRS 633.501.
- (c) Shall not practice osteopathic medicine for practice as a physician assistant in this State.
- 5. An osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] whose license is on inactive status and who wishes to renew his or her license to practice osteopathic medicine [or license to practice as a physician assistant] must:
- (a) Provide to the Board verified evidence satisfactory to the Board of completion of the total number of hours of continuing medical education required for:
- (1) The year preceding the date of the application for renewal of the license; and
- (2) Each year after the date the license was placed on inactive status.
- (b) Provide to the Board an affidavit stating that the applicant has not withheld from the Board any information which would constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to this chapter.
 - (c) Comply with all other requirements for renewal.
 - Sec. 32. NRS 633.501 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.501 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Board shall charge and collect fees not to exceed the following amounts:
- 32(b) Annual license renewal fee for an osteopathic33physician50034(c) Temporary license fee50035(d) Special or authorized facility license fee20036(e) Special event license fee20037(f) Special or authorized facility license renewal fee200





- 2. The Board may prorate the initial license fee for a new license issued pursuant to paragraph (a) for (i) of subsection 1 which expires less than 6 months after the date of issuance.
- 3. The cost of any special meeting called at the request of a licensee, an institution, an organization, a state agency or an applicant for licensure must be paid by the person or entity requesting the special meeting. Such a special meeting must not be called until the person or entity requesting the meeting has paid a cash deposit with the Board sufficient to defray all expenses of the meeting.
- 4. If an applicant submits an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to !:
- (a)] NRS 633.399 or 633.400 and is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran, the Board shall collect not more than one-half of the fee set forth in subsection 1 for the initial issuance of the license. As used in this [paragraph,] subsection, "veteran" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005.
- [(b) NRS 633.4336, the Board shall collect not more than one-half of the fee set forth in subsection 1 for the initial issuance of the license.]
 - **Sec. 33.** NRS 633.511 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.511 1. The grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant to this chapter are:
 - (a) Unprofessional conduct.
 - (b) Conviction of:

- (1) A violation of any federal or state law regulating the possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance or any dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS;
- (2) A felony relating to the practice of osteopathic medicine; for practice as a physician assistant;
- (3) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive;
 - (4) Murder, voluntary manslaughter or mayhem;
- (5) Any felony involving the use of a firearm or other deadly weapon;
- (6) Assault with intent to kill or to commit sexual assault or mayhem;
- (7) Sexual assault, statutory sexual seduction, incest, lewdness, indecent exposure or any other sexually related crime;
- 42 (8) Abuse or neglect of a child or contributory delinquency; 43 or
 - (9) Any offense involving moral turpitude.





- (c) The suspension of a license to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant] by any other jurisdiction.
- (d) Malpractice or gross malpractice, which may be evidenced by a claim of malpractice settled against a licensee.
 - (e) Professional incompetence.

- (f) Failure to comply with the requirements of NRS 633.527.
- (g) Failure to comply with the requirements of subsection 3 of NRS 633.471.
 - (h) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.694.
- (i) Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, at any time during which:
 - (1) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or
- (2) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.
- → This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the facility.
- (j) Failure to comply with the provisions of subsection 2 of NRS 633.322.
 - (k) Signing a blank prescription form.
- (l) Knowingly or willfully procuring or administering a controlled substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:
- (1) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS;
- (2) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328;
- (3) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance with chapter 453A of NRS; or
- (4) Is an investigational drug or biological product prescribed to a patient pursuant to NRS 630.3735 or 633.6945.
- (m) Attempting, directly or indirectly, by intimidation, coercion or deception, to obtain or retain a patient or to discourage the use of a second opinion.
- (n) Terminating the medical care of a patient without adequate notice or without making other arrangements for the continued care of the patient.
- (o) In addition to the provisions of subsection 3 of NRS 633.524, making or filing a report which the licensee knows to be false, failing to file a record or report that is required by law or knowingly or willfully obstructing or inducing another to obstruct the making or filing of such a record or report.





- (p) Failure to report any person the licensee knows, or has reason to know, is in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the Board within 30 days after the date the licensee knows or has reason to know of the violation.
- (q) Failure by a licensee or applicant to report in writing, within 30 days, any criminal action taken or conviction obtained against the licensee or applicant, other than a minor traffic violation, in this State or any other state or by the Federal Government, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or any local or federal jurisdiction of a foreign country.
- (r) Engaging in any act that is unsafe in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
 - (s) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 629.515.
- (t) Failure to supervise adequately a medical assistant pursuant to the regulations of the Board.
- (u) Failure to obtain any training required by the Board pursuant to NRS 633.473.
 - (v) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.6955.
- (w) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 453.163 or 453.164.
- 2. As used in this section, "investigational drug or biological product" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 454.351.
 - **Sec. 34.** NRS 633.512 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.512 Any member or agent of the Board may enter any premises in this State where a person who holds a license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter practices osteopathic medicine [or as a physician assistant] and inspect it to determine whether a violation of any provision of this chapter has occurred, including, without limitation, an inspection to determine whether any person at the premises is practicing osteopathic medicine [or as a physician assistant] without the appropriate license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 633.526 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.526 1. The insurer of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant licensed under this chapter shall report to the Board:
- (a) Any action for malpractice against the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] not later than 45 days after the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] receives service of a summons and complaint for the action;
- (b) Any claim for malpractice against the osteopathic physician for physician assistant that is submitted to arbitration or mediation not later than 45 days after the claim is submitted to arbitration or mediation; and





- (c) Any settlement, award, judgment or other disposition of any action or claim described in paragraph (a) or (b) not later than 45 days after the settlement, award, judgment or other disposition.
- 2. The Board shall report any failure to comply with subsection 1 by an insurer licensed in this State to the Division of Insurance of the Department of Business and Industry. If, after a hearing, the Division of Insurance determines that any such insurer failed to comply with the requirements of subsection 1, the Division may impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 against the insurer for each such failure to report. If the administrative fine is not paid when due, the fine must be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney General on behalf of the Division.

Sec. 36. NRS 633.527 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 633.527 1. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant shall report to the Board:
- (a) Any action for malpractice against the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] not later than 45 days after the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] receives service of a summons and complaint for the action;
- (b) Any claim for malpractice against the osteopathic physician for physician assistant that is submitted to arbitration or mediation not later than 45 days after the claim is submitted to arbitration or mediation;
- (c) Any settlement, award, judgment or other disposition of any action or claim described in paragraph (a) or (b) not later than 45 days after the settlement, award, judgment or other disposition; and
- (d) Any sanctions imposed against the osteopathic physician for physician assistant that are reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank not later than 45 days after the sanctions are imposed.
- 2. If the Board finds that an osteopathic physician for physician assistant has violated any provision of this section, the Board may impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 against the osteopathic physician for physician assistant for each violation, in addition to any other fines or penalties permitted by law.
- 3. All reports made by an osteopathic physician for physician assistant pursuant to this section are public records.

Sec. 37. NRS 633.528 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.528 If the Board receives a report pursuant to the provisions of NRS 633.526, 633.527, 690B.250 or 690B.260 indicating that a judgment has been rendered or an award has been made against an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] regarding an action or claim for malpractice or that such an action or claim against the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] has been resolved by settlement, the Board shall conduct an investigation to determine whether to discipline the osteopathic





physician [or physician assistant] regarding the action or claim, unless the Board has already commenced or completed such an investigation regarding the action or claim before it receives the report.

Sec. 38. NRS 633.529 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 633.529 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, if the Board or an investigative committee of the Board receives a report pursuant to the provisions of NRS 633.526, 633.527, 690B.250 or 690B.260 indicating that a judgment has been rendered or an award has been made against an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] regarding an action or claim for malpractice, or that such an action or claim against the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] has been resolved by settlement, the Board or committee may order the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] to undergo a mental or physical examination or any other examination designated by the Board to test his or her competence to practice osteopathic medicine. [or to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable.] An examination conducted pursuant to this subsection must be conducted by a person designated by the Board.
 - 2. For the purposes of this section:
- (a) An osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] who applies for a license or who holds a license under this chapter is deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination or an examination testing his or her competence to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable.] pursuant to a written order by the Board.
- (b) The testimony or reports of a person who conducts an examination of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant on behalf of the Board pursuant to this section are not privileged communications.
 - **Sec. 39.** NRS 633.531 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.531 1. The Board or any of its members, or a medical review panel of a hospital or medical society, which becomes aware of any conduct by an osteopathic physician for physician assistant that may constitute grounds for initiating disciplinary action shall, and any other person who is so aware may, file a written complaint specifying the relevant facts with the Board.
- 2. The Board shall retain all complaints filed with the Board pursuant to this section for at least 10 years, including, without limitation, any complaints not acted upon.
 - Sec. 40. NRS 633.533 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.533 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, any person may file with the Board a complaint against an osteopathic physician for physician assistant on a form provided by the Board.





The form may be submitted in writing or electronically. If a complaint is submitted anonymously, the Board may accept the complaint but may refuse to consider the complaint if the lack of the identity of the complainant makes processing the complaint impossible or unfair to the person who is the subject of the complaint.

- 2. Any licensee, medical school or medical facility that becomes aware that a person practicing osteopathic medicine for practicing as a physician assistant in this State has, is or is about to become engaged in conduct which constitutes grounds for initiating disciplinary action shall file a written complaint with the Board within 30 days after becoming aware of the conduct.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, any hospital, clinic or other medical facility licensed in this State, or medical society, shall file a written report with the Board of any change in the privileges of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] to practice while the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] is under investigation, and the outcome of any disciplinary action taken by the facility or society against the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] concerning the care of a patient or the competency of the osteopathic physician, [or physician assistant,] within 30 days after the change in privileges is made or disciplinary action is taken.
- 4. A hospital, clinic or other medical facility licensed in this State, or medical society, shall report to the Board within 5 days after a change in the privileges of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant that is based on:
- (a) An investigation of the mental, medical or psychological competency of the osteopathic physician ; {or physician assistant;}
- (b) Suspected or alleged substance abuse in any form by the osteopathic physician. [or physician assistant.]
- 5. The Board shall report any failure to comply with subsection 3 or 4 by a hospital, clinic or other medical facility licensed in this State to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services. If, after a hearing, the Division determines that any such facility or society failed to comply with the requirements of [this subsection,] subsection 3 or 4, the Division may impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 against the facility or society for each such failure to report. If the administrative fine is not paid when due, the fine must be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney General on behalf of the Division.





- 6. The clerk of every court shall report to the Board any finding, judgment or other determination of the court that an osteopathic physician: [or physician assistant:]
 - (a) Is mentally ill;

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- (b) Is mentally incompetent;
- (c) Has been convicted of a felony or any law governing controlled substances or dangerous drugs;
 - (d) Is guilty of abuse or fraud under any state or federal program providing medical assistance; or
 - (e) Is liable for damages for malpractice or negligence.
 - → within 45 days after the finding, judgment or determination.

Sec. 41. NRS 633.542 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.542 Unless the Board determines that extenuating circumstances exist, the Board shall forward to the appropriate law enforcement agency any substantiated information submitted to the Board concerning a person who practices or offers to practice osteopathic medicine [or as a physician assistant] without the appropriate license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 42. NRS 633.561 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, if the Board or a member of the Board designated to review a complaint pursuant to NRS 633.541 has reason to believe that the conduct of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant has raised a reasonable question as to his or her competence to practice osteopathic medicine for to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable, with reasonable skill and safety to patients, the Board or the member designated by the Board may require the osteopathic physician for physician assistant to submit to a mental or physical examination conducted by physicians designated by the Board. If the osteopathic physician for physician assistant participates in a diversion program, the diversion program may exchange with any authorized member of the staff of the Board any information concerning the recovery and participation of the osteopathic physician for physician assistant in the diversion program. As used in this subsection, "diversion program" means a program approved by the Board to correct an osteopathic physician's for physician assistant's alcohol or drug dependence or any other impairment.
 - 2. For the purposes of this section:
- (a) An osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] who is licensed under this chapter and who accepts the privilege of practicing osteopathic medicine [or practicing as a physician assistant] in this State is deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination pursuant to a written order by the Board.





- (b) The testimony or examination reports of the examining physicians are not privileged communications.
- 3. Except in extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Board, the failure of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant who is licensed under this chapter to submit to an examination pursuant to this section constitutes an admission of the charges against the osteopathic physician. for physician assistant.

Sec. 43. NRS 633.571 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.571 Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, if the Board has reason to believe that the conduct of any osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] has raised a reasonable question as to his or her competence to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable,] with reasonable skill and safety to patients, the Board may require the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] to submit to an examination for the purposes of determining his or her competence to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable,] with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

Sec. 44. NRS 633.581 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 633.581 1. If an investigation by the Board of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] reasonably determines that the health, safety or welfare of the public or any patient served by the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] is at risk of imminent or continued harm, the Board may summarily suspend the license of the licensee pending the conclusion of a hearing to consider a formal complaint against the licensee. The order of summary suspension may be issued only by the Board or an investigative committee of the Board.
- 2. If the Board or an investigative committee of the Board issues an order summarily suspending the license of a licensee pursuant to subsection 1, the Board shall hold a hearing not later than 60 days after the date on which the order is issued, unless the Board and the licensee mutually agree to a longer period, to determine whether a reasonable basis exists to continue the suspension of the license pending the conclusion of a hearing to consider a formal complaint against the licensee. If no formal complaint against the licensee is pending before the Board on the date on which a hearing is held pursuant to this section, the Board shall reinstate the license of the licensee.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, if the Board or an investigative committee of the Board issues an order summarily suspending the license of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] pursuant to subsection 1 and the Board requires the licensee to submit to a mental or physical examination or a





medical competency examination, the examination must be conducted and the results must be obtained not later than 30 days after the order is issued.

Sec. 45. NRS 633.591 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.591 Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, if the Board issues an order summarily suspending the license of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] pending proceedings for disciplinary action, including, without limitation, a summary suspension pursuant to NRS 233B.127, the court shall not stay that order unless the Board fails to institute and determine such proceedings as promptly as the requirements for investigation of the case reasonably allow.

Sec. 46. NRS 633.601 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.601 1. In addition to any other remedy provided by law, the Board, through an officer of the Board or the Attorney General, may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin any unprofessional conduct of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] which is harmful to the public or to limit the practice of the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] or suspend his or her license to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant, as applicable,] as provided in this section.

2. The court in a proper case may issue a temporary restraining order or a preliminary injunction for such purposes:

(a) Without proof of actual damage sustained by any person, this provision being a preventive as well as punitive measure; and

(b) Pending proceedings for disciplinary action by the Board. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, such proceedings shall be instituted and determined as promptly as the requirements for investigation of the case reasonably allow.

Sec. 47. NRS 633.631 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.631 Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and chapter 622A of NRS:

- 1. Service of process made under this chapter must be either personal or by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, addressed to the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] at his or her last known address, as indicated in the records of the Board. If personal service cannot be made and if mail notice is returned undelivered, the President or Secretary of the Board shall cause a notice of hearing to be published once a week for 4 consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in the county of the last known address of the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] or, if no newspaper is published in that county, in a newspaper widely distributed in that county.
- 2. In lieu of the methods of service of process set forth in subsection 1, if the Board obtains written consent from the





osteopathic physician , [or physician assistant,] service of process under this chapter may be made by electronic mail on the licensee at an electronic mail address designated by the licensee in the written consent.

- 3. Proof of service of process or publication of notice made under this chapter must be filed with the Secretary of the Board and may be recorded in the minutes of the Board.
 - **Sec. 48.** NRS 633.641 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.641 Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, in any disciplinary proceeding before the Board, a hearing officer or a panel:
- 1. Proof of actual injury need not be established where the formal complaint charges deceptive or unethical professional conduct or medical practice harmful to the public.
- 2. A certified copy of the record of a court or a licensing agency showing a conviction or the suspension or revocation of a license to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant] is conclusive evidence of its occurrence.
 - **Sec. 49.** NRS 633.651 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.651 1. If the Board finds a person guilty in a disciplinary proceeding, it shall by order take one or more of the following actions:
- (a) Place the person on probation for a specified period or until further order of the Board.
 - (b) Administer to the person a public reprimand.
- (c) Limit the practice of the person to, or by the exclusion of, one or more specified branches of osteopathic medicine.
- (d) Suspend the license of the person to practice osteopathic medicine for to practice as a physician assistant for a specified period or until further order of the Board.
- (e) Revoke the license of the person to practice osteopathic medicine. For to practice as a physician assistant.
 - (f) Impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each violation.
 - (g) Require supervision of the practice of the person.
- (h) Require the person to perform community service without compensation.
- (i) Require the person to complete any training or educational requirements specified by the Board.
- (j) Require the person to participate in a program to correct alcohol or drug dependence or any other impairment.
- The order of the Board may contain any other terms, provisions or conditions as the Board deems proper and which are not inconsistent with law.
 - 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.





- 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.
 - **Sec. 50.** NRS 633.671 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.671 1. Any person who has been placed on probation or whose license has been limited, suspended or revoked by the Board is entitled to judicial review of the Board's order as provided by law.
 - 2. Every order of the Board which limits the practice of osteopathic medicine [or the practice of a physician assistant] or suspends or revokes a license is effective from the date on which the order is issued by the Board until the date the order is modified or reversed by a final judgment of the court.
 - 3. The district court shall give a petition for judicial review of the Board's order priority over other civil matters which are not expressly given priority by law.
 - **Sec. 51.** NRS 633.681 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.681 1. Any person:
 - (a) Whose practice of osteopathic medicine for practice as a physician assistant has been limited; or
 - (b) Whose license to practice osteopathic medicine for to practice as a physician assistant has been:
 - (1) Suspended until further order; or
 - (2) Revoked,

- may apply to the Board after a reasonable period for removal of the limitation or suspension or may apply to the Board pursuant to the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS for reinstatement of the revoked license.
 - 2. In hearing the application, the Board:
- (a) May require the person to submit to a mental or physical examination by physicians whom it designates and submit such other evidence of changed conditions and of fitness as it deems proper;
- (b) Shall determine whether under all the circumstances the time of the application is reasonable; and
- (c) May deny the application or modify or rescind its order as it deems the evidence and the public safety warrants.
 - **Sec. 52.** NRS 633.691 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.691 1. In addition to any other immunity provided by the provisions of chapter 622A of NRS, the Board, a medical review panel of a hospital, a hearing officer, a panel of the Board, an employee or volunteer of a diversion program specified in NRS 633.561, or any person who or other organization which initiates or assists in any lawful investigation or proceeding concerning the discipline of an osteopathic physician for physician assistant for gross malpractice, malpractice, professional incompetence or





unprofessional conduct is immune from any civil action for such initiation or assistance or any consequential damages, if the person or organization acted in good faith.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Board shall not commence an investigation, impose any disciplinary action or take any other adverse action against an osteopathic physician for physician assistant for:
- (a) Disclosing to a governmental entity a violation of a law, rule or regulation by an applicant for a license to practice osteopathic medicine [or to practice as a physician assistant,] or by an osteopathic physician; [or physician assistant;] or
- (b) Cooperating with a governmental entity that is conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into such a violation, including, without limitation, providing testimony concerning the violation.
- 3. An osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] who discloses information to or cooperates with a governmental entity pursuant to subsection 2 with respect to the violation of any law, rule or regulation by the osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] is subject to investigation and any other administrative or disciplinary action by the Board under the provisions of this chapter for such violation.
- 4. As used in this section, "governmental entity" includes, without limitation:
- (a) A federal, state or local officer, employee, agency, department, division, bureau, board, commission, council, authority or other subdivision or entity of a public employer;
- (b) A federal, state or local employee, committee, member or commission of the Legislative Branch of Government;
- (c) A federal, state or local representative, member or employee of a legislative body or a county, town, village or any other political subdivision or civil division of the State;
- (d) A federal, state or local law enforcement agency or prosecutorial office, or any member or employee thereof, or police or peace officer; and
- (e) A federal, state or local judiciary, or any member or employee thereof, or grand or petit jury.
 - Sec. 53. NRS 633.6955 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.6955 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an osteopathic physician shall not allow a person to perform or participate in any activity under the supervision of the osteopathic physician for the purpose of receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine, including, without limitation, clinical observation and contact with patients, unless the person is enrolled in good standing at:





- (a) A medical school that is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges or their successor organizations; or
 - (b) A school of osteopathic medicine.
- 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to an osteopathic physician who supervises an activity performed by a person for the purpose of receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine if:
 - (a) The activity takes place:

- (1) In a primary care practice that is located in an area that has been designated by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services as a health professional shortage area pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 254e; and
- (2) Entirely under the supervision of the osteopathic physician; and
- (b) The osteopathic physician is not currently supervising any other person who is receiving credit toward a degree of doctor of medicine, osteopathy or osteopathic medicine.
- 3. As used in this section, "primary care practice" means a health care practice operated by one or more physicians *or physician assistants* who practice in the area of family medicine, internal medicine or pediatrics.
 - **Sec. 54.** NRS 633.701 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.701 The filing and review of a complaint and any subsequent disposition by the Board, the member designated by the Board to review a complaint pursuant to NRS 633.541 or any reviewing court do not preclude:
- 1. Any measure by a hospital or other institution to limit or terminate the privileges of an osteopathic physician [or physician assistant] according to its rules or the custom of the profession. No civil liability attaches to any such action taken without malice even if the ultimate disposition of the complaint is in favor of the osteopathic physician. [or physician assistant.]
- 2. Any appropriate criminal prosecution by the Attorney General or a district attorney based upon the same or other facts.
 - **Sec. 55.** NRS 633.707 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 633.707 1. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant may issue to a public or private school an order to allow the school to obtain and maintain auto-injectable epinephrine at the school, regardless of whether any person at the school has been diagnosed with a condition which may cause the person to require such medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis.
- 2. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant may issue to an authorized entity an order to allow the authorized entity to





obtain and maintain auto-injectable epinephrine at any location under the control of the authorized entity where allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, regardless of whether any person employed by, affiliated with or served by the authorized entity has been diagnosed with a condition which may cause the person to require such medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis.

- 3. An order issued pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 must contain:
- (a) The name and signature of the osteopathic physician for physician assistant and the address of the osteopathic physician for physician assistant if not immediately available to the pharmacist;
 - (b) The classification of his or her license;
- (c) The name of the public or private school or authorized entity to which the order is issued;
- (d) The name, strength and quantity of the drug authorized to be obtained and maintained by the order; and
 - (e) The date of issue.

- 4. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant is not subject to disciplinary action solely for issuing a valid order pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 to an entity other than a natural person and without knowledge of a specific natural person who requires the medication.
- 5. An osteopathic physician for physician assistant is not liable for any error or omission concerning the acquisition, possession, provision or administration of auto-injectable epinephrine maintained by a public or private school or authorized entity pursuant to an order issued by the osteopathic physician for physician assistant not resulting from gross negligence or reckless, willful or wanton conduct of the osteopathic physician . for physician assistant.
 - 6. As used in this section:
- (a) "Authorized entity" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 450B.710.
- (b) "Private school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 394.103.
- (c) "Public school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385.007.
 - **Sec. 56.** NRS 633.711 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 633.711 1. The Board, through an officer of the Board or the Attorney General, may maintain in any court of competent jurisdiction a suit for an injunction against any person:
 - (a) Practicing osteopathic medicine for practicing as a physician assistant without a valid license to practice osteopathic medicine; for to practice as a physician assistant; or
- (b) Providing services through telehealth, as defined in NRS 629.515, without a valid license.





- 2. An injunction issued pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) May be issued without proof of actual damage sustained by any person, this provision being a preventive as well as a punitive measure.
- (b) Must not relieve such person from criminal prosecution for practicing without such a license.

Sec. 57. NRS 633.721 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.721 In a criminal complaint charging any person with practicing osteopathic medicine for practicing as a physician assistant without a valid license issued by the Board, it is sufficient to charge that the person did, upon a certain day, and in a certain county of this State, engage in such practice without having a valid license to do so, without averring any further or more particular facts concerning the violation.

Sec. 58. NRS 633.741 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.741 1. It is unlawful for any person to:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 629.091, practice:
- (1) Osteopathic medicine without a valid license to practice osteopathic medicine under this chapter; *or*
- (2) [As a physician assistant without a valid license under this chapter; or
- Beyond the limitations ordered upon his or her practice by the Board or the court;
- (b) Present as his or her own the diploma, license or credentials of another;
- (c) Give either false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or any of its members in connection with an application for a license;
- (d) File for record the license issued to another, falsely claiming himself or herself to be the person named in the license, or falsely claiming himself or herself to be the person entitled to the license;
- (e) Practice osteopathic medicine for practice as a physician assistant under a false or assumed name or falsely personate another licensee of a like or different name;
- [(f) Hold himself or herself out as a physician assistant or use any other term indicating or implying that he or she is a physician assistant, unless the person has been licensed by the Board as provided in this chapter;] or
- (g) (f) Supervise a person as a physician assistant before such person is licensed as provided in this chapter 630 of NRS.
 - 2. A person who violates any provision of subsection 1:
- (a) If no substantial bodily harm results, is guilty of a category D felony; or
- (b) If substantial bodily harm results, is guilty of a category C felony,





- → and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130, unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to NRS 200.830 or 200.840.
- 3. In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, if the Board determines that a person has committed any act described in subsection 1, the Board may:
- (a) Issue and serve on the person an order to cease and desist until the person obtains from the Board the proper license or otherwise demonstrates that he or she is no longer in violation of subsection 1. An order to cease and desist must include a telephone number with which the person may contact the Board.
- (b) Issue a citation to the person. A citation issued pursuant to this paragraph must be in writing, describe with particularity the nature of the violation and inform the person of the provisions of this paragraph. Each activity in which the person is engaged constitutes a separate offense for which a separate citation may be issued. To appeal a citation, the person must submit a written request for a hearing to the Board not later than 30 days after the date of issuance of the citation.
- (c) Assess against the person an administrative fine of not more than \$5,000.
- (d) Impose any combination of the penalties set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).
 - **Sec. 59.** NRS 639.0125 is hereby amended to read as follows: 639.0125 "Practitioner" means:
- 1. A physician, dentist, veterinarian or podiatric physician who holds a license to practice his or her profession in this State;
- 2. A hospital, pharmacy or other institution licensed, registered or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to or administer drugs in the course of professional practice or research in this State;
- 3. An advanced practice registered nurse who has been authorized to prescribe controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs and devices;
 - 4. A physician assistant who:
- (a) Holds a license issued by the Board of Medical Examiners; and
- (b) Is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices under the supervision of a physician as required by chapter 630 of NRS; *or*
 - 5. [A physician assistant who:
- (a) Holds a license issued by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine; and
- (b) Is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or





devices under the supervision of an osteopathic physician as required by chapter 633 of NRS; or

— 6.] An optometrist who is certified by the Nevada State Board of Optometry to prescribe and administer therapeutic pharmaceutical agents pursuant to NRS 636.288, when the optometrist prescribes or administers therapeutic pharmaceutical agents within the scope of his or her certification.

Sec. 60. NRS 639.1373 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.1373 1. A physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS may, if authorized by the Board, possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, or possess, administer, prescribe or dispense poisons, dangerous drugs or devices in or out of the presence of his or her supervising physician only to the extent and subject to the limitations specified in the registration certificate issued to the physician assistant by the Board pursuant to this section.

- 2. Each physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS who is authorized by his or her physician assistant's license issued by the Board of Medical Examiners [or by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, respectively,] to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, or to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense poisons, dangerous drugs or devices must apply for and obtain a registration certificate from the Board, pay a fee to be set by regulations adopted by the Board and pass an examination administered by the Board on the law relating to pharmacy before the physician assistant can possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, or possess, administer, prescribe or dispense poisons, dangerous drugs or devices.
- 3. The Board shall consider each application separately and may, even though the physician assistant's license issued by the Board of Medical Examiners for by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicinel authorizes the physician assistant to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, or to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense poisons, dangerous drugs and devices:
 - (a) Refuse to issue a registration certificate;
- (b) Issue a registration certificate limiting the authority of the physician assistant to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, or to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense poisons, dangerous drugs or devices, the area in which the physician assistant may possess controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs and devices, or the kind and amount of controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs and devices; or





- (c) Issue a registration certificate imposing other limitations or restrictions which the Board feels are necessary and required to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- 4. If the registration of the physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS is suspended or revoked, the physician's controlled substance registration may also be suspended or revoked.
- 5. The Board shall adopt regulations controlling the maximum amount to be administered, possessed and dispensed, and the storage, security, recordkeeping and transportation of controlled substances and the maximum amount to be administered, possessed, prescribed and dispensed and the storage, security, recordkeeping and transportation of poisons, dangerous drugs and devices by physician assistants licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS. In the adoption of those regulations, the Board shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) The area in which the physician assistant is to operate;
 - (b) The population of that area;
 - (c) The experience and training of the physician assistant;
 - (d) The distance to the nearest hospital and physician; and
 - (e) The effect on the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- [6. For the purposes of this section, the term "supervising physician" includes a supervising osteopathic physician as defined in chapter 633 of NRS.]
 - **Sec. 61.** NRS 652.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 652.210 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 126.121 and 652.186, no person other than a licensed physician, a licensed optometrist, a licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, a perfusionist, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, a certified advanced emergency medical technician, a certified paramedic, a practitioner of respiratory care licensed pursuant to chapter 630 of NRS or a licensed dentist may manipulate a person for the collection of specimens. The persons described in this subsection may perform any laboratory test which is classified as a waived test pursuant to Subpart A of Part 493 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations without obtaining certification as an assistant in a medical laboratory pursuant to NRS 652.127.
- 2. The technical personnel of a laboratory may collect blood, remove stomach contents, perform certain diagnostic skin tests or field blood tests or collect material for smears and cultures.
 - **Sec. 62.** NRS 200.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 200.471 1. As used in this section:
 - (a) "Assault" means:





- (1) Unlawfully attempting to use physical force against another person; or
 - (2) Intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm.
 - (b) "Officer" means:

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- (1) A person who possesses some or all of the powers of a peace officer;
- (2) A person employed in a full-time salaried occupation of fire fighting for the benefit or safety of the public;
 - (3) A member of a volunteer fire department;
- (4) A jailer, guard or other correctional officer of a city or county jail;
- (5) A justice of the Supreme Court, judge of the Court of Appeals, district judge, justice of the peace, municipal judge, magistrate, court commissioner, master or referee, including a person acting pro tempore in a capacity listed in this subparagraph; or
- (6) An employee of the State or a political subdivision of the State whose official duties require the employee to make home visits.
- (c) "Provider of health care" means a physician, a medical student, a perfusionist or a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 of NRS, a practitioner of respiratory care, a homeopathic physician, an advanced practitioner of homeopathy, a homeopathic assistant, an osteopathic physician, fa physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 633 of NRS, a podiatric physician, a podiatry hygienist, a physical therapist, a medical laboratory technician, an optometrist, a chiropractor, chiropractor's assistant, a doctor of Oriental medicine, a nurse, a student nurse, a certified nursing assistant, a nursing assistant trainee, a medication aide - certified, a dentist, a dental student, a dental hygienist, a dental hygienist student, a pharmacist, a pharmacy student, an intern pharmacist, an attendant on an ambulance or air ambulance, a psychologist, a social worker, a marriage and family therapist, a marriage and family therapist intern, a clinical professional counselor, a clinical professional counselor intern, a licensed dietitian, an emergency medical technician, an advanced emergency medical technician and a
- (d) "School employee" means a licensed or unlicensed person employed by a board of trustees of a school district pursuant to NRS 391.100 or 391.281.
- (e) "Sporting event" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 41.630. 44





- 1 (f) "Sports official" has the meaning ascribed to it in 2 NRS 41.630.
 - (g) "Taxicab" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 706.8816.
 - (h) "Taxicab driver" means a person who operates a taxicab.
 - (i) "Transit operator" means a person who operates a bus or other vehicle as part of a public mass transportation system.
 - 2. A person convicted of an assault shall be punished:
 - (a) If paragraph (c) or (d) does not apply to the circumstances of the crime and the assault is not made with the use of a deadly weapon or the present ability to use a deadly weapon, for a misdemeanor.
 - (b) If the assault is made with the use of a deadly weapon or the present ability to use a deadly weapon, for a category B felony by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 6 years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.
 - (c) If paragraph (d) does not apply to the circumstances of the crime and if the assault is committed upon an officer, a provider of health care, a school employee, a taxicab driver or a transit operator who is performing his or her duty or upon a sports official based on the performance of his or her duties at a sporting event and the person charged knew or should have known that the victim was an officer, a provider of health care, a school employee, a taxicab driver, a transit operator or a sports official, for a gross misdemeanor, unless the assault is made with the use of a deadly weapon or the present ability to use a deadly weapon, then for a category B felony by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 6 years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.
 - (d) If the assault is committed upon an officer, a provider of health care, a school employee, a taxicab driver or a transit operator who is performing his or her duty or upon a sports official based on the performance of his or her duties at a sporting event by a probationer, a prisoner who is in lawful custody or confinement or a parolee, and the probationer, prisoner or parolee charged knew or should have known that the victim was an officer, a provider of health care, a school employee, a taxicab driver, a transit operator or a sports official, for a category D felony as provided in NRS 193.130, unless the assault is made with the use of a deadly weapon or the present ability to use a deadly weapon, then for a category B felony by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 6 years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.





Sec. 63. NRS 200.5093 is hereby amended to read as follows:

200.5093 1. Any person who is described in subsection 4 and who, in a professional or occupational capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that an older person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned shall:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, report the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the older person to:
- (1) The local office of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) A police department or sheriff's office; or

- (3) A toll-free telephone service designated by the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (b) Make such a report as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours after the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the older person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned.
- 2. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the older person involves an act or omission of the Aging and Disability Services Division, another division of the Department of Health and Human Services or a law enforcement agency, the person shall make the report to an agency other than the one alleged to have committed the act or omission.
- 3. Each agency, after reducing a report to writing, shall forward a copy of the report to the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes.
- 4. A report must be made pursuant to subsection 1 by the following persons:
- (a) Every physician, dentist, dental hygienist, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatric physician, medical examiner, resident, intern, professional or practical nurse, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, perfusionist, psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, clinical alcohol and drug abuse counselor, alcohol and drug abuse counselor, music therapist, athletic trainer, driver of an ambulance, paramedic, licensed dietitian or other person providing medical services licensed or certified to practice in this State, who examines, attends or treats an older person who appears to have been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned.
- (b) Any personnel of a hospital or similar institution engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an





administrator, manager or other person in charge of a hospital or similar institution upon notification of the suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of an older person by a member of the staff of the hospital.

(c) A coroner.

- (d) Every person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide personal care services in the home.
- (e) Every person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide nursing in the home.
- (f) Every person who operates, who is employed by or who contracts to provide services for an intermediary service organization as defined in NRS 449.4304.
- (g) Any employee of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (h) Any employee of a law enforcement agency or a county's office for protective services or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
- (i) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for older persons.
- (j) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of an older person and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.
 - (k) Every social worker.
- (l) Any person who owns or is employed by a funeral home or mortuary.
- (m) Every person who operates or is employed by a peer support recovery organization, as defined in NRS 449.01563.
- (n) Every person who operates or is employed by a community health worker pool, as defined in NRS 449.0028, or with whom a community health worker pool contracts to provide the services of a community health worker, as defined in NRS 449.0027.
 - 5. A report may be made by any other person.
- 6. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that an older person has died as a result of abuse, neglect, isolation or abandonment, the person shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report this belief to the appropriate medical examiner or coroner, who shall investigate the cause of death of the older person and submit to the appropriate local law enforcement agencies, the appropriate prosecuting attorney, the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes his or her written findings. The written findings must include the information





required pursuant to the provisions of NRS 200.5094, when possible.

- 7. A division, office or department which receives a report pursuant to this section shall cause the investigation of the report to commence within 3 working days. A copy of the final report of the investigation conducted by a division, office or department, other than the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, must be forwarded within 30 days after the completion of the report to the:
 - (a) Aging and Disability Services Division;
- (b) Repository for Information Concerning Crimes Against Older Persons created by NRS 179A.450; and
 - (c) Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes.
- 8. If the investigation of a report results in the belief that an older person is abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned, the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services or the county's office for protective services may provide protective services to the older person if the older person is able and willing to accept them.
- 9. A person who knowingly and willfully violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 10. As used in this section, "Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes" means the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes Against Older Persons in the Office of the Attorney General created pursuant to NRS 228.265.
 - **Sec. 64.** NRS 200.50935 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 200.50935 1. Any person who is described in subsection 3 and who, in a professional or occupational capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned shall:
- (a) Report the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the vulnerable person to a law enforcement agency; and
- (b) Make such a report as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours after the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the vulnerable person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned.
- 2. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the vulnerable person involves an act or omission of a law enforcement agency, the person shall make the report to a law enforcement agency other than the one alleged to have committed the act or omission.





- 3. A report must be made pursuant to subsection 1 by the following persons:
- (a) Every physician, dentist, dental hygienist, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatric physician, medical examiner, resident, intern, professional or practical nurse, perfusionist, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, clinical alcohol and drug abuse counselor, alcohol and drug abuse counselor, music therapist, athletic trainer, driver of an ambulance, paramedic, licensed dietitian or other person providing medical services licensed or certified to practice in this State, who examines, attends or treats a vulnerable person who appears to have been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned.
- (b) Any personnel of a hospital or similar institution engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an administrator, manager or other person in charge of a hospital or similar institution upon notification of the suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of a vulnerable person by a member of the staff of the hospital.
 - (c) A coroner.

- (d) Every person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide nursing in the home.
- (e) Any employee of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (f) Any employee of a law enforcement agency or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
- (g) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for vulnerable persons.
- (h) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of a vulnerable person and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.
 - (i) Every social worker.
- (j) Any person who owns or is employed by a funeral home or mortuary.
 - 4. A report may be made by any other person.
- 5. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable person has died as a result of abuse, neglect, isolation or abandonment, the person shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report this belief to the appropriate medical examiner or coroner, who shall investigate the cause of death of the vulnerable person and submit to the appropriate local law enforcement agencies and the appropriate prosecuting attorney his or her written findings. The





written findings must include the information required pursuant to the provisions of NRS 200.5094, when possible.

- 6. A law enforcement agency which receives a report pursuant to this section shall immediately initiate an investigation of the report.
- 7. A person who knowingly and willfully violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.
 - Sec. 65. NRS 244.1605 is hereby amended to read as follows:

244.1605 The boards of county commissioners may:

- 1. Establish, equip and maintain limited medical facilities in the outlying areas of their respective counties to provide outpatient care and emergency treatment to the residents of and those falling sick or being injured or maimed in those areas.
- 2. Provide a full-time or part-time staff for the facilities which may include a physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse, a certified emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, and such other personnel as the board deems necessary or appropriate to ensure adequate staffing commensurate with the needs of the area in which the facility is located.
- 3. Fix the charges for the medical and nursing care and medicine furnished by the facility to those who are able to pay for them, and to provide that care and medicine free of charge to those persons who qualify as medical indigents under the county's criteria of eligibility for medical care.
- 4. Purchase, equip and maintain, either in connection with a limited medical facility as authorized in this section or independent therefrom, ambulances and ambulance services for the benefit of the residents of and those falling sick or being injured or maimed in the outlying areas.
 - **Šec. 66.** NRS 244.3821 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 244.3821 1. In addition to the powers elsewhere conferred upon all counties, except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, any county may establish a medical scholarship program to induce students in the medical professions to return to the county for practice.
- 2. Any county whose population is 100,000 or more may only establish a medical scholarship program to induce students in the medical professions to return to the less populous rural communities of the county for practice.
- 3. Students in the medical professions for the purposes of NRS 244.382 to 244.3823, inclusive, include persons studying to be physician assistants licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS.





4. The board of county commissioners of a county that has established a medical scholarship program may appropriate money from the general fund of the county for medical scholarship funds and may accept private contributions to augment the scholarship funds

Sec. 67. NRS 397.0617 is hereby amended to read as follows: 397.0617 1. The provisions of this section apply only to support fees received by a participant on or after July 1, 1997.

- 2. The three Nevada State Commissioners, acting jointly, may require a participant who is certified to practice in a profession which could benefit a health professional shortage area, a medically underserved area or a medically underserved population of this State, as those terms are defined by the Office of Statewide Initiatives of the University of Nevada School of Medicine, to practice in such an area or with such a population, or to practice in an area designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services:
- (a) Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 254c, as containing a medically underserved population; or
- (b) Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 254e, as a health professional shortage area,
- → as a condition to receiving a support fee.
- 3. The three Nevada State Commissioners, acting jointly, may forgive the portion of the support fee designated as the stipend of a participant if that participant agrees to practice in a health professional shortage area, a medically underserved area or an area with a medically underserved population of this State pursuant to subsection 2 for a period of time equal to the lesser of:
- (a) One year for each year the participant receives a support fee; or
- (b) One year for each 9 months the participant receives a support fee and is enrolled in an accelerated program that provides more than 1 academic year of graduate and professional education in 9 months,
- → but in no case for a period of time more than 2 years.
- 4. For a participant to qualify for forgiveness pursuant to subsection 3, the participant must complete the relevant practice within 5 years after the completion or termination of the participant's education, internship or residency for which the participant received the support fee.
- 5. If a participant returns to or remains in this State but does not practice in a health professional shortage area, a medically underserved area or an area with a medically underserved population of this State pursuant to subsections 2, 3 and 4, the three Nevada State Commissioners, acting jointly, shall:





(a) Assess a default charge in an amount not less than three times the support fees, plus interest; and

(b) Convert the portion of the support fee designated as the stipend into a loan to be repaid in accordance with NRS 397.064 from the first day of the term for which the participant received the

support fee.

6. As used in this section, a "profession which could benefit a health professional shortage area, a medically underserved area or an area with a medically underserved population of this State" includes, without limitation, dentistry, physical therapy, pharmacy and practicing as a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS.

Sec. 68. NRS 433A.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433A.165 1. Before a person alleged to be a person with mental illness may be admitted to a public or private mental health facility pursuant to NRS 433A.160, the person must:

- (a) First be examined by a licensed physician or physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to NRS 632.237 at any location where such a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse is authorized to conduct such an examination to determine whether the person has a medical problem, other than a psychiatric problem, which requires immediate treatment; and
- 25 (b) If such treatment is required, be admitted for the appropriate 26 medical care:
 - (1) To a hospital if the person is in need of emergency services or care; or
 - (2) To another appropriate medical facility if the person is not in need of emergency services or care.
 - 2. If a person with a mental illness has a medical problem in addition to a psychiatric problem which requires medical treatment that requires more than 72 hours to complete, the licensed physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse who examined the person must:
 - (a) On the first business day after determining that such medical treatment is necessary file with the clerk of the district court a written petition to admit the person to a public or private mental health facility pursuant to NRS 433A.160 after the medical treatment has been completed. The petition must:
 - (1) Include, without limitation, the medical condition of the person and the purpose for continuing the medical treatment of the person; and





- (2) Be accompanied by a copy of the application for the emergency admission of the person required pursuant to NRS 433A.160 and the certificate required pursuant to NRS 433A.170.
- (b) Seven days after filing a petition pursuant to paragraph (a) and every 7 days thereafter, file with the clerk of the district court an update on the medical condition and treatment of the person.
- 3. The examination and any transfer of the person from a facility when the person has an emergency medical condition and has not been stabilized must be conducted in compliance with:
- (a) The requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and must involve a person authorized pursuant to federal law to conduct such an examination or certify such a transfer; and
 - (b) The provisions of NRS 439B.410.
- 4. The cost of the examination must be paid by the county in which the person alleged to be a person with mental illness resides if services are provided at a county hospital located in that county or a hospital or other medical facility designated by that county, unless the cost is voluntarily paid by the person alleged to be a person with mental illness or, on the person's behalf, by his or her insurer or by a state or federal program of medical assistance.
- 5. The county may recover all or any part of the expenses paid by it, in a civil action against:
 - (a) The person whose expenses were paid;
 - (b) The estate of that person; or
- (c) A responsible relative as prescribed in NRS 433A.610, to the extent that financial ability is found to exist.
- 6. The cost of treatment, including hospitalization, for a person who is indigent must be paid pursuant to NRS 428.010 by the county in which the person alleged to be a person with mental illness resides.
- 7. The provisions of this section do not require the Division to provide examinations required pursuant to subsection 1 at a Division facility if the Division does not have the:
- (a) Appropriate staffing levels of physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice registered nurses or other appropriate staff available at the facility as the Division determines is necessary to provide such examinations; or
- (b) Appropriate medical laboratories as the Division determines is necessary to provide such examinations.
- 8. The Division shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section, including, without limitation, regulations that:
- (a) Define "emergency services or care" as that term is used in this section; and





- (b) Prescribe the type of medical facility that a person may be admitted to pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.
- 9. As used in this section, "medical facility" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0151.
 - **Sec. 69.** NRS 439.519 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 439.519 1. The members of the Advisory Council serve terms of 2 years. A member may be reappointed to serve not more than two additional, consecutive terms.
- 2. A majority of the voting members of the Advisory Council shall select a Chair and a Vice Chair of the Advisory Council.
 - 3. A majority of the voting members of the Advisory Council may:
- (a) Appoint committees or subcommittees to study issues relating to wellness and the prevention of chronic disease.
- (b) Remove a nonlegislative member of the Advisory Council for failing to carry out the business of, or serve the best interests of, the Advisory Council.
- (c) Establish an advisory group of interested persons and governmental entities to study the delivery of health care through patient-centered medical homes. Interested persons and governmental entities that serve on the advisory group may include, without limitation:
 - (1) Public health agencies;
 - (2) Public and private insurers;
- (3) Providers of primary care, including, without limitation, physicians , *physician assistants* and advanced practice registered nurses who provide primary care; and
 - (4) Recipients of health care services.
- 4. The Division shall, within the limits of available money, provide the necessary professional staff and a secretary for the Advisory Council.
- 5. A majority of the voting members of the Advisory Council constitutes a quorum to transact all business, and a majority of those voting members present, physically or via telecommunications, must concur in any decision.
- 6. The Advisory Council shall, within the limits of available money, meet at the call of the Administrator, the Chair or a majority of the voting members of the Advisory Council quarterly or as is necessary.
- 7. The members of the Advisory Council serve without compensation, except that each member is entitled, while engaged in the business of the Advisory Council and within the limits of available money, to the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.





- 8. As used in this section, "patient-centered medical home" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 439A.190.
 - **Sec. 70.** NRS 439A.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 439A.190 1. A primary care practice shall not represent itself as a patient-centered medical home unless the primary care practice is certified, accredited or otherwise officially recognized as a patient-centered medical home by a nationally recognized organization for the accrediting of patient-centered medical homes.
 - 2. The Department shall post on an Internet website maintained by the Department links to nationally recognized organizations for the accrediting of patient-centered medical homes and any other information specified by the Department to allow patients to find a patient-centered medical home that meets the requirements of this section and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
 - 3. Any coordination between an insurer and a patient-centered medical home or acceptance of an incentive from an insurer by a patient-centered medical home that is authorized by federal law shall not be deemed to be an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive trade practice or other act or practice prohibited by the provisions of chapter 598 or 686A of NRS.
 - 4. As used in this section:

- (a) "Patient-centered medical home" means a primary care practice that:
- (1) Offers patient-centered, continuous, culturally competent, evidence-based, comprehensive health care that is led by a provider of primary care and a team of health care providers, coordinates the health care needs of the patient and uses enhanced communication strategies and health information technology; and
- (2) Emphasizes enhanced access to practitioners and preventive care to improve the outcomes for and experiences of patients and lower the costs of health services.
- (b) "Primary care practice" means a federally qualified health center, as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(l)(2)(B), or a business where health services are provided by one or more advanced practice registered nurses *or physician assistants* or one or more physicians who are licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS and who practice in the area of family practice, internal medicine or pediatrics.
 - **Sec. 71.** NRS 440.415 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 440.415 1. A physician who anticipates the death of a patient because of an illness, infirmity or disease may authorize a specific registered nurse or physician assistant or the registered nurses or physician assistants employed by a medical facility or program for hospice care to make a pronouncement of death if they attend the death of the patient.





- 2. Such an authorization is valid for 120 days. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the authorization must:
 - (a) Be a written order entered on the chart of the patient;
 - (b) State the name of the registered nurse or nurses or physician assistant or assistants authorized to make the pronouncement of death; and
 - (c) Be signed and dated by the physician.

- 3. If the patient is in a medical facility or under the care of a program for hospice care, the physician may authorize the registered nurses or physician assistants employed by the facility or program to make pronouncements of death without specifying the name of each nurse or physician assistant, as applicable.
- 4. If a pronouncement of death is made by a registered nurse or physician assistant, the physician who authorized that action shall sign the medical certificate of death within 24 hours after being presented with the certificate.
- 5. If a patient in a medical facility is pronounced dead by a registered nurse or physician assistant employed by the facility, the registered nurse or physician assistant may release the body of the patient to a licensed funeral director pending the completion of the medical certificate of death by the attending physician if the physician or the medical director or chief of the medical staff of the facility has authorized the release in writing.
- 6. The Board may adopt regulations concerning the authorization of a registered nurse or physician assistant to make pronouncements of death.
 - 7. As used in this section:
 - (a) "Medical facility" means:
 - (1) A facility for skilled nursing as defined in NRS 449.0039;
 - (2) A facility for hospice care as defined in NRS 449.0033;
 - (3) A hospital as defined in NRS 449.012;
- (4) An agency to provide nursing in the home as defined in NRS 449.0015; or
 - (5) A facility for intermediate care as defined in NRS 449.0038.
 - (b) "Physician assistant" means a person who holds a license as a physician assistant pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS.
- (c) "Program for hospice care" means a program for hospice care licensed pursuant to chapter 449 of NRS.
- (d) "Pronouncement of death" means a declaration of the time and date when the cessation of the cardiovascular and respiratory functions of a patient occurs as recorded in the patient's medical record by the attending provider of health care in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.





Sec. 72. NRS 441A.110 is hereby amended to read as follows: 441A.110 "Provider of health care" means a physician, *physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 of NRS*, nurse or veterinarian licensed in accordance with state law. [or a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS.]

Sec. 73. NRS 441A.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:

441A.540 1. If a person infected with or exposed to a communicable disease is voluntarily isolated or quarantined in a public or private medical facility, the facility shall not change the status of the person to an emergency isolation or quarantine unless, before the change in status is made:

(a) The facility provides:

- (1) An application to a health authority for an emergency isolation or quarantine pursuant to NRS 441A.560; and
- (2) The certificate of a health authority, physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurse to a health authority pursuant to NRS 441A.570; or
- (b) The facility receives an order for isolation or quarantine issued by a health authority.
- 2. A person whose status is changed to an emergency isolation or quarantine pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) Must not be detained in excess of 48 hours after the change in status is made, unless within that period a written petition is filed by a health authority with the clerk of the district court pursuant to NRS 441A.600; and
- (b) May, immediately after the person's status is changed, seek an injunction or other appropriate process in district court challenging his or her detention.
- 3. If the period specified in subsection 2 expires on a day on which the office of the clerk of the district court is not open, the written petition must be filed on or before the close of the business day next following the expiration of that period.
- 4. Nothing in this section limits the actions that a public or private medical facility may take to prevent or limit the transmission of communicable diseases within the medical facility, including, without limitation, practices for the control of infections.

Sec. 74. NRS 441A.560 is hereby amended to read as follows:

441A.560 1. An application to a health authority for an order of emergency isolation or quarantine of a person or a group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease may only be made by another health authority, a physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, a registered nurse or a medical facility by submitting the certificate required by NRS 441A.570. Within its





jurisdiction, upon application or on its own, subject to the provisions of NRS 441A.510 to 441A.720, inclusive, a health authority may:

- (a) Pursuant to its own order and without a warrant:
- (1) Take a person or group of persons alleged to and reasonably believed by the health authority to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease into custody in any safe location under emergency isolation or quarantine for testing, examination, observation and the provision of or arrangement for the provision of consensual medical treatment; and
- (2) Transport the person or group of persons alleged to and reasonably believed by the health authority to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease to a public or private medical facility, a residence or other safe location for that purpose, or arrange for the person or group of persons to be transported for that purpose by:
 - (I) A local law enforcement agency;
- (II) A system for the nonemergency medical transportation of persons whose operation is authorized by the Nevada Transportation Authority; or
- (III) If medically necessary, an ambulance service that holds a permit issued pursuant to the provisions of chapter 450B of NRS.
- → only if the health authority acting in good faith has, based upon personal observation, its own epidemiological investigation or an epidemiological investigation by another health authority, a physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or a registered nurse as stated in a certificate submitted pursuant to NRS 441A.570, if such a certificate was submitted, of the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, a reasonable factual and medical basis to believe that the person or group of persons has been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, and that because of the risks of that disease, the person or group of persons is likely to be an immediate threat to the health of members of the public who have not been infected with or exposed to the communicable disease.
 - (b) Petition a district court for an emergency order requiring:
- (1) Any health authority or peace officer to take a person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease into custody to allow the health authority to investigate, file and prosecute a petition for the involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine of the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease in the manner set forth in NRS 441A.510 to 441A.720, inclusive; and





- (2) Any agency, system or service described in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) to transport, in accordance with such court order, the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease to a public or private medical facility, a residence or other safe location for that purpose.
- 2. The district court may issue an emergency order for isolation or quarantine pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1:
- (a) Only for the time deemed necessary by the court to allow a health authority to investigate, file and prosecute each petition for involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine pursuant to NRS 441A.510 to 441A.720, inclusive; and
- (b) Only if it is satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease has been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, and that because of the risks of that disease, the person or group of persons is likely to be an immediate threat to the health of the public.

Sec. 75. NRS 441A.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

441A.570 A health authority shall not accept an application for an emergency isolation or quarantine under NRS 441A.560 unless that application is accompanied by a certificate of another health authority or a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurse stating that he or she has examined the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease or has investigated the circumstances of potential infection or exposure regarding the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease and that he or she has concluded that the person or group of persons has been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, and that because of the risks of that disease, the person or group of persons is likely to be an immediate threat to the health of the public. The certificate required by this section may be obtained from a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 6331 of NRS or registered nurse who is employed by the public or private medical facility in which the person or group of persons is admitted or detained and from the facility from which the application is made.

Sec. 76. NRS 441A.580 is hereby amended to read as follows: 441A.580 1. No application or certificate authorized under NRS 441A.560 or 441A.570 may be considered if made by a person on behalf of a medical facility or by a health authority, physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurse who is related by blood or marriage to the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable





disease, or who is financially interested, in a manner that would be prohibited pursuant to NRS 439B.425 if the application or certificate were deemed a referral, in a medical facility in which the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease is to be detained.

2. No application or certificate of any health authority or person authorized under NRS 441A.560 or 441A.570 may be considered unless it is based on personal observation, examination or epidemiological investigation of the person or group of persons alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease made by such health authority or person not more than 72 hours before the making of the application or certificate. The certificate must set forth in detail the facts and reasons on which the health authority or person who submitted the certificate pursuant to NRS 441A.570 based his or her opinions and conclusions.

Sec. 77. NRS 441A.600 is hereby amended to read as follows: 441A.600 A proceeding for an involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine of any person in this State may be commenced by a health authority filing a petition with the clerk of the district court of the county where the person is to be isolated or quarantined. The petition may be pled in the alternative for both isolation and quarantine, if required by developing or changing facts, and must be accompanied:

- 1. By a certificate of a health authority or a physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or a registered nurse stating that he or she has examined the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease or has investigated the circumstances of potential infection or exposure regarding the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease and has concluded that the person has been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, and that because of the risks of that disease, the person is likely to be an immediate threat to the health of the public; or
 - 2. By a sworn written statement by the health authority that:
- (a) The health authority has, based upon its personal observation of the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, or its epidemiological investigation of the circumstances of potential infection or exposure regarding the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease, a reasonable factual and medical basis to believe that the person has been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease and, that because of the risks of that disease, the person is likely to be an immediate threat to the health of the public; and





(b) The person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease has refused to submit to voluntary isolation or quarantine, examination, testing, or treatment known to control or resolve the transmission of the communicable disease.

Sec. 78. NRS 441A.610 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 441A.610 In addition to the requirements of NRS 441A.600, a petition filed pursuant to that section with the clerk of the district court to commence proceedings for involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine of a person pursuant to NRS 441A.540 or 441A.550 must include a certified copy of:
- 1. If an application for an order of emergency isolation or quarantine of the person was made pursuant to NRS 441A.560, the application for the emergency isolation or quarantine of the person made to the petitioning health authority pursuant to NRS 441A.560; and
- 2. A petition executed by a health authority, including, without limitation, a sworn statement that:
- (a) The health authority or a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurse who submitted a certificate pursuant to NRS 441A.570, if such a certificate was submitted, has examined the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease;
- (b) In the opinion of the health authority, there is a reasonable degree of certainty that the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease is currently capable of transmitting the disease, or is likely to become capable of transmitting the disease in the near future;
- (c) Based on either the health authority's personal observation of the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to the communicable disease or the health authority's epidemiological investigation of the circumstances of potential infection or exposure regarding the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to the communicable disease, and on other facts set forth in the petition, the person likely poses an immediate threat to the health of the public; and
- (d) In the opinion of the health authority, involuntary isolation or quarantine of the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease to a public or private medical facility, residence or other safe location is necessary to prevent the person from immediately threatening the health of the public.
 - Sec. 79. NRS 441Å.630 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 441A.630 1. After the filing of a petition to commence proceedings for the involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine of a person pursuant to NRS 441A.600 or 441A.610, the court shall promptly cause two or more physicians or physician assistants





licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS, at least one of whom must always be a physician, to either examine the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease or assess the likelihood that the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease has been so infected or exposed.

- 2. To conduct the examination or assessment of a person who is not being detained at a public or private medical facility, residence or other safe location under emergency isolation or quarantine pursuant to the emergency order of a health authority or court made pursuant to NRS 441A.550 or 441A.560, the court may order a peace officer to take the person into protective custody and transport the person to a public or private medical facility, residence or other safe location where the person may be detained until a hearing is held upon the petition.
- 3. If the person is being detained at his or her home or other place of residence under an emergency order of a health authority or court pursuant to NRS 441A.550 or 441A.560, the person may be allowed to remain in his or her home or other place of residence pending an ordered assessment, examination or examinations and to return to his or her home or other place of residence upon completion of the assessment, examination or examinations if such remaining or returning would not constitute an immediate threat to others residing in his or her home or place of residence.
- 4. Each physician and physician assistant [licensed pursuant to ehapter 630 or 633 of NRS] who examines or assesses a person pursuant to subsection 1 shall, not later than 24 hours before the hearing set pursuant to NRS 441A.620, submit to the court in writing a summary of his or her findings and evaluation regarding the person alleged to have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease.
- **Sec. 80.** NRS 441A.640 is hereby amended to read as follows: 441A.640 1. The health authority shall establish such evaluation teams as are necessary to aid the courts under NRS 441A.630 and 441A.700.
- 2. Each team must be composed of at least two physicians, or at least one physician and one physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS.
- 3. Fees for the evaluations must be established and collected as set forth in NRS 441A.650.
- **Sec. 81.** NRS 441A.670 is hereby amended to read as follows: 441A.670 In proceedings for involuntary court-ordered isolation or quarantine, the court shall hear and consider all relevant testimony, including, but not limited to, the testimony of examining personnel who participated in the evaluation of the person alleged to





have been infected with or exposed to a communicable disease and the certificates, if any, of a health authority or a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurse accompanying the petition.

Sec. 82. NRS 441A.720 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 441A.720 When any involuntary court isolation or quarantine is ordered under the provisions of NRS 441A.510 to 441A.720, inclusive, the involuntarily isolated or quarantined person, together with the court orders, any certificates of the health authorities, physicians, physician assistants licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS or registered nurses, the written summary of the evaluation team and a full and complete transcript of the notes of the official reporter made at the examination of such person before the court, must be delivered to the sheriff of the appropriate county who must be ordered to:
 - 1. Transport the person; or

- 2. Arrange for the person to be transported by:
- (a) A system for the nonemergency medical transportation of persons whose operation is authorized by the Nevada Transportation Authority; or
- (b) If medically necessary, an ambulance service that holds a permit issued pursuant to the provisions of chapter 450B of NRS,
- to the appropriate public or private medical facility, residence or other safe location.
 - **Sec. 83.** NRS 442.003 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 442.003 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:
- 1. "Advisory Board" means the Advisory Board on Maternal and Child Health.
- 2. "Department" means the Department of Health and Human Services.
 - 3. "Director" means the Director of the Department.
- 4. "Division" means the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department.
 - 5. "Fetal alcohol syndrome" includes fetal alcohol effects.
 - 6. "Laboratory" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 652.040.
- 7. "Obstetric center" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0155.
 - 8. "Provider of health care or other services" means:
 - (a) A clinical alcohol and drug abuse counselor who is licensed, or an alcohol and drug abuse counselor who is licensed or certified, pursuant to chapter 641C of NRS;
 - (b) A *licensed* physician or a physician assistant who is licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 6331 of NRS and who practices in the





area of obstetrics and gynecology, family practice, internal 2 medicine, pediatrics or psychiatry;

(c) A licensed nurse;

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- (d) A licensed psychologist;
- (e) A licensed marriage and family therapist;
- 6 (f) A licensed clinical professional counselor; 7
 - (g) A licensed social worker:
- 8 (h) A licensed dietitian; or
 - (i) The holder of a certificate of registration as a pharmacist.

Sec. 84. NRS 442.119 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 442.119 As used in NRS 442.119 to 442.1198, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires:
- "Health officer" includes a local health officer, a city health officer, a county health officer and a district health officer.
- "Medicaid" has the meaning ascribed to in it NRS 439B.120.
- 3. "Medicare" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 439B.130.
 - "Provider of prenatal care" means:
 - (a) A physician who is licensed in this State and certified in obstetrics and gynecology, family practice, general practice or general surgery.
 - (b) A certified nurse midwife who is licensed by the State Board
 - (c) An advanced practice registered nurse who is licensed by the State Board of Nursing pursuant to NRS 632.237 and who has specialized skills and training in obstetrics or family nursing.
 - (d) A physician assistant who is licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 6331 of NRS and who has specialized skills and training in obstetrics or family practice.
 - **Sec. 85.** NRŠ 449.0175 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 449.0175 "Rural clinic" means a facility located in an area that is not designated as an urban area by the Bureau of the Census, where medical services are provided by a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to NRS 632.237 who is under the supervision of a licensed physician.
 - NRS 453.038 is hereby amended to read as follows: Sec. 86.
 - 453.038 "Chart order" means an order entered on the chart of a patient:
 - 1. In a hospital, facility for intermediate care or facility for skilled nursing which is licensed as such by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department; or
- Under emergency treatment in a hospital by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, dentist or podiatric physician, or





on the written or oral order of a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, advanced practice registered nurse, dentist or podiatric physician authorizing the administration of a drug to the patient.

Sec. 87. NRS 453.091 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 453.091 1. "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion or processing of a substance, either directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container.
- 2. "Manufacture" does not include the preparation, compounding, packaging or labeling of a substance by a pharmacist, physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dentist, podiatric physician, advanced practice registered nurse or veterinarian:
- (a) As an incident to the administering or dispensing of a substance in the course of his or her professional practice; or
- (b) By an authorized agent under his or her supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching or chemical analysis and not for sale.
 - **Sec. 88.** NRS 453.126 is hereby amended to read as follows: 453.126 "Practitioner" means:
- 1. A physician, dentist, veterinarian or podiatric physician who holds a license to practice his or her profession in this State and is registered pursuant to this chapter.
- 2. An advanced practice registered nurse who holds a certificate from the State Board of Pharmacy authorizing him or her to dispense or to prescribe and dispense controlled substances.
- 3. A scientific investigator or a pharmacy, hospital or other institution licensed, registered or otherwise authorized in this State to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, to administer, or use in teaching or chemical analysis, a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research.
- 4. A euthanasia technician who is licensed by the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and registered pursuant to this chapter, while he or she possesses or administers sodium pentobarbital pursuant to his or her license and registration.
 - 5. A physician assistant who:
 - (a) Holds a license from the Board of Medical Examiners; and
- (b) Is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances under the supervision of a physician *or osteopathic physician* as required by chapter 630 of NRS





6. [A physician assistant who:

— (a) Holds a license from the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine; and

(b) Is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances under the supervision of an osteopathic physician as required by chapter 633 of NRS.

— 7.1 An optometrist who is certified by the Nevada State Board of Optometry to prescribe and administer therapeutic pharmaceutical agents pursuant to NRS 636.288, when the optometrist prescribes or administers therapeutic pharmaceutical agents within the scope of his or her certification.

Sec. 89. NRS 453.128 is hereby amended to read as follows:

453.128 1. "Prescription" means:

- (a) An order given individually for the person for whom prescribed, directly from a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dentist, podiatric physician, optometrist, advanced practice registered nurse or veterinarian, or his or her agent, to a pharmacist or indirectly by means of an order signed by the practitioner or an electronic transmission from the practitioner to a pharmacist; or
- (b) A chart order written for an inpatient specifying drugs which he or she is to take home upon his or her discharge.
- 2. The term does not include a chart order written for an inpatient for use while he or she is an inpatient.

Sec. 90. NRS 453.226 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 453.226 1. Every practitioner or other person who dispenses any controlled substance within this State or who proposes to engage in the dispensing of any controlled substance within this State shall obtain biennially a registration issued by the Board in accordance with its regulations.
- 2. A person registered by the Board in accordance with the provisions of NRS 453.011 to 453.552, inclusive, to dispense or conduct research with controlled substances may possess, dispense or conduct research with those substances to the extent authorized by the registration and in conformity with the other provisions of those sections.
- 3. The following persons are not required to register and may lawfully possess and distribute controlled substances pursuant to the provisions of NRS 453.011 to 453.552, inclusive:
- (a) An agent or employee of a registered dispenser of a controlled substance if he or she is acting in the usual course of his or her business or employment;
- (b) A common or contract carrier or warehouseman, or an employee thereof, whose possession of any controlled substance is in the usual course of business or employment;





- (c) An ultimate user or a person in possession of any controlled substance pursuant to a lawful order of a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dentist, advanced practice registered nurse, podiatric physician or veterinarian or in lawful possession of a schedule V substance; or
 - (d) A physician who:

- (1) Holds a locum tenens license issued by the Board of Medical Examiners or a temporary license issued by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine; and
- (2) Is registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration at a location outside this State.
- 4. The Board may waive the requirement for registration of certain dispensers if it finds it consistent with the public health and safety.
- 5. A separate registration is required at each principal place of business or professional practice where the applicant dispenses controlled substances.
- 6. The Board may inspect the establishment of a registrant or applicant for registration in accordance with the Board's regulations.
 - **Sec. 91.** NRS 453.336 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 453.336 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, a person shall not knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance, unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a prescription or order of a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dentist, podiatric physician, optometrist, advanced practice registered nurse or veterinarian while acting in the course of his or her professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by the provisions of NRS 453.005 to 453.552, inclusive.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 3 and 4 and in NRS 453.3363, and unless a greater penalty is provided in NRS 212.160, 453.3385, 453.339 or 453.3395, a person who violates this section shall be punished:
- (a) For the first or second offense, if the controlled substance is listed in schedule I, II, III or IV, for a category E felony as provided in NRS 193.130.
- (b) For a third or subsequent offense, if the controlled substance is listed in schedule I, II, III or IV, or if the offender has previously been convicted two or more times in the aggregate of any violation of the law of the United States or of any state, territory or district relating to a controlled substance, for a category D felony as provided in NRS 193.130, and may be further punished by a fine of not more than \$20,000.





- (c) For the first offense, if the controlled substance is listed in schedule V, for a category E felony as provided in NRS 193.130.
- (d) For a second or subsequent offense, if the controlled substance is listed in schedule V, for a category D felony as provided in NRS 193.130.
- 3. Unless a greater penalty is provided in NRS 212.160, 453.337 or 453.3385, a person who is convicted of the possession of flunitrazepam or gamma-hydroxybutyrate, or any substance for which flunitrazepam or gamma-hydroxybutyrate is an immediate precursor, is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 6 years.
- 4. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to NRS 212.160, a person who is convicted of the possession of 1 ounce or less of marijuana:
 - (a) For the first offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be:
 - (1) Punished by a fine of not more than \$600; or
- (2) Examined by a treatment provider approved by the court to determine whether the person is a drug addict and is likely to be rehabilitated through treatment and, if the examination reveals that the person is a drug addict and is likely to be rehabilitated through treatment, assigned to a program of treatment and rehabilitation pursuant to NRS 453.580. As used in this subparagraph, "treatment provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 458.010.
- (b) For the second offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be:
 - (1) Punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000; or
- (2) Assigned to a program of treatment and rehabilitation pursuant to NRS 453.580.
- (c) For the third offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.140.
- (d) For a fourth or subsequent offense, is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- 5. It is not a violation of this section if a person possesses a trace amount of a controlled substance and that trace amount is in or on a hypodermic device obtained from a sterile hypodermic device program pursuant to NRS 439.985 to 439.994, inclusive.
 - 6. As used in this section:
- (a) "Controlled substance" includes flunitrazepam, gamma-hydroxybutyrate and each substance for which flunitrazepam or gamma-hydroxybutyrate is an immediate precursor.
 - (b) "Marijuana" does not include concentrated cannabis.
- (c) "Sterile hypodermic device program" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 439.986.





- **Sec. 92.** NRS 453.371 is hereby amended to read as follows: 453.371 As used in NRS 453.371 to 453.552, inclusive:
- "Medical intern" means a medical graduate acting as an assistant in a hospital for the purpose of clinical training.
- 2. "Pharmacist" means a person who holds a certificate of registration issued pursuant to NRS 639.127 and is registered with the Board.
- 3. "Physician," "dentist," "podiatric physician," "veterinarian" and "euthanasia technician" mean persons authorized by a license to practice their respective professions in this State who are registered with the Board
- "Physician assistant" means a person who is registered with the Board and H
- (a) Holds holds a license issued pursuant to NRS 630.273. ; or (b) Holds a license issued pursuant to NRS 633.433.]
 - **Sec. 93.** NRS 453C.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 453C.030 1. "Health care professional" means a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse.
 - 2. As used in this section:

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- (a) "Advanced practice registered nurse" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 632.012.
 - (b) "Physician" means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS.
- (c) "Physician assistant" means a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS.
 - **Sec. 94.** NRS 454.213 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 27 454.213 1. A drug or medicine referred to in NRS 454.181 to 454.371, inclusive, may be possessed and administered by: 28 29
 - (a) A practitioner.
 - (b) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS, at the direction of his or her supervising physician or a licensed dental hygienist acting in the office of and under the supervision of a dentist.
 - (c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), a registered nurse licensed to practice professional nursing or licensed practical nurse, at the direction of a prescribing physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS, dentist, podiatric physician or advanced practice registered nurse, or pursuant to a chart order, for administration to a patient at another location.
 - (d) In accordance with applicable regulations of the Board, a registered nurse licensed to practice professional nursing or licensed practical nurse who is:
 - (1) Employed by a health care agency or health care facility that is authorized to provide emergency care, or to respond to the immediate needs of a patient, in the residence of the patient; and





- (2) Acting under the direction of the medical director of that agency or facility who works in this State.
- (e) A medication aide certified at a designated facility under the supervision of an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse and in accordance with standard protocols developed by the State Board of Nursing. As used in this paragraph, "designated facility" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 632.0145.
- (f) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (g), an advanced emergency medical technician or a paramedic, as authorized by regulation of the State Board of Pharmacy and in accordance with any applicable regulations of:
- (1) The State Board of Health in a county whose population is less than 100,000;
- (2) A county board of health in a county whose population is 100,000 or more; or
- (3) A district board of health created pursuant to NRS 439.362 or 439.370 in any county.
- (g) An advanced emergency medical technician or a paramedic who holds an endorsement issued pursuant to NRS 450B.1975, under the direct supervision of a local health officer or a designee of the local health officer pursuant to that section.
- (h) A respiratory therapist employed in a health care facility. The therapist may possess and administer respiratory products only at the direction of a physician.
- (i) A dialysis technician, under the direction or supervision of a physician or registered nurse only if the drug or medicine is used for the process of renal dialysis.
- (j) A medical student or student nurse in the course of his or her studies at an accredited college of medicine or approved school of professional or practical nursing, at the direction of a physician and:
 - (1) In the presence of a physician or a registered nurse; or
- (2) Under the supervision of a physician or a registered nurse if the student is authorized by the college or school to administer the drug or medicine outside the presence of a physician or nurse.
- A medical student or student nurse may administer a dangerous drug in the presence or under the supervision of a registered nurse alone only if the circumstances are such that the registered nurse would be authorized to administer it personally.
- (k) Any person designated by the head of a correctional institution.
- (l) An ultimate user or any person designated by the ultimate user pursuant to a written agreement.





- (m) A nuclear medicine technologist, at the direction of a physician and in accordance with any conditions established by regulation of the Board.
- (n) A radiologic technologist, at the direction of a physician and in accordance with any conditions established by regulation of the Board.
- (o) A chiropractic physician, but only if the drug or medicine is a topical drug used for cooling and stretching external tissue during therapeutic treatments.
- (p) A physical therapist, but only if the drug or medicine is a topical drug which is:
- (1) Used for cooling and stretching external tissue during therapeutic treatments; and
 - (2) Prescribed by a licensed physician for:
 - (I) Iontophoresis; or

- (II) The transmission of drugs through the skin using ultrasound.
- (q) In accordance with applicable regulations of the State Board of Health, an employee of a residential facility for groups, as defined in NRS 449.017, pursuant to a written agreement entered into by the ultimate user.
- (r) A veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant at the direction of his or her supervising veterinarian.
- (s) In accordance with applicable regulations of the Board, a registered pharmacist who:
- (1) Is trained in and certified to carry out standards and practices for immunization programs;
- (2) Is authorized to administer immunizations pursuant to written protocols from a physician; and
- (3) Administers immunizations in compliance with the "Standards for Immunization Practices" recommended and approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- (t) A registered pharmacist pursuant to written guidelines and protocols developed and approved pursuant to NRS 639.2809.
- (u) A person who is enrolled in a training program to become a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dental hygienist, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic, respiratory therapist, dialysis technician, nuclear medicine technologist, radiologic technologist, physical therapist or veterinary technician if the person possesses and administers the drug or medicine in the same manner and under the same conditions that apply, respectively, to a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, dental hygienist, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic, respiratory therapist, dialysis





technician, nuclear medicine technologist, radiologic technologist, physical therapist or veterinary technician who may possess and administer the drug or medicine, and under the direct supervision of a person licensed or registered to perform the respective medical art or a supervisor of such a person.

- (v) A medical assistant, in accordance with applicable regulations of the:
- (1) Board of Medical Examiners, at the direction of the prescribing physician and under the supervision of a physician or physician assistant.
- (2) State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, at the direction of the prescribing physician and under the supervision of a physician or physician assistant.
- 2. As used in this section, "accredited college of medicine" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 453.375.
 - **Sec. 95.** NRS 454.215 is hereby amended to read as follows:

454.215 A dangerous drug may be dispensed by:

- 1. A registered pharmacist upon the legal prescription from a practitioner or to a pharmacy in a correctional institution upon the written order of the prescribing practitioner in charge;
- 2. A pharmacy in a correctional institution, in case of emergency, upon a written order signed by the chief medical officer;
- 3. A practitioner, or a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS if authorized by the Board;
- 4. A registered nurse, when the nurse is engaged in the performance of any public health program approved by the Board;
 - 5. A medical intern in the course of his or her internship;
 - 6. An advanced practice registered nurse who holds a certificate from the State Board of Pharmacy permitting him or her to dispense dangerous drugs;
- 7. A registered nurse employed at an institution of the Department of Corrections to an offender in that institution;
- 8. A registered pharmacist from an institutional pharmacy pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board; or
 - 9. A registered nurse to a patient at a rural clinic that is designated as such pursuant to NRS 433.233 and that is operated by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services if the nurse is providing mental health services at the rural clinic,
- → except that no person may dispense a dangerous drug in violation of a regulation adopted by the Board.
 - **Sec. 96.** NRS 454.221 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 43 454.221 1. A person who furnishes any dangerous drug except upon the prescription of a practitioner is guilty of a category





D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130, unless the dangerous drug was obtained originally by a legal prescription.

2. The provisions of this section do not apply to the furnishing of any dangerous drug by:

(a) A practitioner to his or her patients;

(b) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 for 633 of NRS if authorized by the Board;

(c) A registered nurse while participating in a public health program approved by the Board, or an advanced practice registered nurse who holds a certificate from the State Board of Pharmacy permitting him or her to dispense dangerous drugs;

(d) A manufacturer or wholesaler or pharmacy to each other or to a practitioner or to a laboratory under records of sales and purchases that correctly give the date, the names and addresses of

the supplier and the buyer, the drug and its quantity;

(e) A hospital pharmacy or a pharmacy so designated by a county health officer in a county whose population is 100,000 or more, or by a district health officer in any county within its jurisdiction or, in the absence of either, by the Chief Medical Officer or the Chief Medical Officer's designated Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services, to a person or agency described in subsection 3 of NRS 639.268 to stock ambulances or other authorized vehicles or replenish the stock; or

(f) A pharmacy in a correctional institution to a person designated by the Director of the Department of Corrections to administer a lethal injection to a person who has been sentenced to death

Sec. 97. NRS 484C.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

484C.250 1. The results of any blood test administered under the provisions of NRS 484C.160 or 484C.180 are not admissible in any hearing or criminal action arising out of acts alleged to have been committed by a person who was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance or with a prohibited substance in his or her blood or urine or who was engaging in any other conduct prohibited by NRS 484C.110, 484C.120, 484C.130 or 484C.430 unless:

(a) The blood tested was withdrawn by a person, other than an arresting officer, who:

(1) Is a physician, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 [or 633] of NRS, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic or a phlebotomist, technician, technologist or assistant employed in a medical laboratory; or

(2) Has special knowledge, skill, experience, training and education in withdrawing blood in a medically acceptable manner,





including, without limitation, a person qualified as an expert on that subject in a court of competent jurisdiction or a person who has completed a course of instruction that qualifies him or her to take an examination in phlebotomy that is administered by the American Medical Technologists or the American Society for Clinical Pathology; and

(b) The test was performed on whole blood, except if the sample was clotted when it was received by the laboratory, the test may be performed on blood serum or plasma.

2. The limitation contained in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 does not apply to the taking of a chemical test of the urine, breath or other bodily substance.

3. No person listed in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 incurs any civil or criminal liability as a result of the administering of a blood test when requested by a police officer or the person to be tested to administer the test.

Sec. 98. NRS 616B.527 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.527 1. A self-insured employer, an association of self-insured public or private employers or a private carrier may:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 616B.5273, enter into a contract or contracts with one or more organizations for managed care to provide comprehensive medical and health care services to employees for injuries and diseases that are compensable pursuant to chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS.
- (b) Enter into a contract or contracts with providers of health care, including, without limitation, physicians *and physician assistants* who provide primary care, specialists, pharmacies, physical therapists, radiologists, nurses, diagnostic facilities, laboratories, hospitals and facilities that provide treatment to outpatients, to provide medical and health care services to employees for injuries and diseases that are compensable pursuant to chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS.
- (c) Require employees to obtain medical and health care services for their industrial injuries from those organizations and persons with whom the self-insured employer, association or private carrier has contracted pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b), or as the self-insured employer, association or private carrier otherwise prescribes.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 of NRS 616C.090, require employees to obtain the approval of the self-insured employer, association or private carrier before obtaining medical and health care services for their industrial injuries from a provider of health care who has not been previously approved by the self-insured employer, association or private carrier.





- 2. An organization for managed care with whom a self-insured employer, association of self-insured public or private employers or a private carrier has contracted pursuant to this section shall comply with the provisions of NRS 616B.528, 616B.5285 and 616B.529.
 - **Sec. 99.** NRS 687B.450 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 687B.450 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if an insurer requires a medical examination of an applicant or an insured before the issuance, renewal, reinstatement or reevaluation of the terms of any policy or certificate of insurance or annuity contract, the insurer shall:
- (a) If the applicant or insured has a primary care **[physician,]** provider or physician assistant, notify:
- (1) The physician *or physician assistant* of any potentially serious medical condition that is detected as a result of that medical examination; and
 - (2) The applicant or insured:
- (I) Of any potentially serious medical condition that is detected as a result of that medical examination; and
- (II) That the primary care [physician] provider or physician assistant of the applicant or insured has also been notified of any potentially serious medical condition detected as a result of that medical examination.
- (b) If the applicant or insured does not have a primary care **[physician,]** provider or physician assistant, notify the applicant or insured of any potentially serious medical condition that is detected as a result of that medical examination.
- Any notice required pursuant to this section must be sent by registered or certified mail not later than 30 days after the date on which the potentially serious medical condition is detected. If the applicant or insured is under the age of 18 years, any notice required pursuant to this section must not be sent to the applicant or insured, but instead must be sent to a parent or legal guardian of the applicant or insured.
- 2. The Commissioner may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 3. The provisions of this section do not apply to a policy of workers' compensation insurance or industrial insurance.
- 4. As used in this section, "potentially serious medical condition" includes, without limitation, any medical condition that:
- (a) Is life-threatening or potentially life-threatening if it is not treated immediately or is not closely monitored; or
- (b) Causes the insurer to refuse to issue, renew, reinstate or reevaluate the terms of a policy or certificate of insurance or annuity contract.





5. As used in this section, "primary care provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695G.060.

Sec. 100. NRS 689A.0413 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 689A.0413 1. A policy of health insurance must include a provision authorizing a woman covered by the policy to obtain covered gynecological or obstetrical services without first receiving authorization or a referral from her primary care [physician.] provider.
- 2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a woman covered by a policy of health insurance to designate an obstetrician or gynecologist as her primary care [physician.] provider.
- 3. A policy subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after October 1, 1999, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by this section, and any provision of the policy or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.
- 4. As used in this section, "primary care [physician"] provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695G.060.
 - **Sec. 101.** NRS 689B.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 689B.031 1. A policy of group health insurance must include a provision authorizing a woman covered by the policy to obtain covered gynecological or obstetrical services without first receiving authorization or a referral from her primary care [physician.] provider.
 - 2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a woman covered by a policy of group health insurance to designate an obstetrician or gynecologist as her primary care **[physician.] provider.**
 - 3. A policy subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after October 1, 1999, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by this section, and any provision of the policy or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.
 - 4. As used in this section, "primary care [physician"] provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695G.060.
 - **Sec. 102.** NRS 695B.1914 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 695B.1914 1. A contract for hospital or medical service must include a provision authorizing a woman covered by the contract to obtain covered gynecological or obstetrical services without first receiving authorization or a referral from her primary care [physician.] provider.



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- 2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a woman covered by a contract for hospital or medical service to designate an obstetrician or gynecologist as her primary care **[physician.]** provider.
- 3. A contract subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after October 1, 1999, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by this section, and any provision of the contract or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.
- 4. As used in this section, "primary care [physician"] provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695G.060.
 - **Sec. 103.** NRS 695C.1713 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 695C.1713 1. A health care plan must include a provision authorizing a woman covered by the plan to obtain covered gynecological or obstetrical services without first receiving authorization or a referral from her primary care [physician.] provider.
 - 2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a woman covered by a health care plan to designate an obstetrician or gynecologist as her primary care [physician.] provider.
 - 3. An evidence of coverage subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after October 1, 1999, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by this section, and any provision of the evidence of coverage or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.
 - 4. As used in this section, "primary care [physician"] provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695G.060.
 - **Sec. 104.** NRS 695G.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 695G.060 "Primary care [physician"] provider" means a physician or physician assistant, or any group [of physicians] thereof, who:
 - 1. Provides initial and primary health care services to an insured;
 - 2. Maintains the continuity of care for the insured; and
 - 3. May refer the insured to a specialized provider of health care.
- **Sec. 105.** NRS 695G.150 is hereby amended to read as 40 follows:
 - 695G.150 Each managed care organization shall authorize coverage of a health care service that has been recommended for the insured by a provider of health care acting within the scope of his or her practice if that service is covered by the health care plan of the insured, unless:





- 1 1. The decision not to authorize coverage is made by a 2 physician who:
 - (a) Is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Nevada pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS;
 - (b) Possesses the education, training and expertise to evaluate the medical condition of the insured; and
 - (c) Has reviewed the available medical documentation, notes of the attending physician, test results and other relevant medical records of the insured.
 - → The physician may consult with other providers of health care in determining whether to authorize coverage.
 - 2. The decision not to authorize coverage and the reason for the decision have been transmitted in writing in a timely manner to the insured, the provider of health care who recommended the service and the primary care [physician] provider of the insured, if any.
 - **Sec. 106.** Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of this act, a license to practice as a physician assistant that is valid on January 1, 2018, and that was issued by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine created by NRS 633.181:
 - 1. Shall be deemed to be issued by the Board of Medical Examiners created by NRS 630.050;
 - 2. Remains valid until its date of expiration if the holder of the license otherwise remains qualified for the issuance or renewal of the license on or after January 1, 2018; and
 - 3. Upon its expiration, may be renewed in accordance with the provisions of chapter 630 of NRS and chapter 630 of NAC governing the renewal of a physician assistant's license.
 - **Sec. 107.** 1. Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of this act transferring authority to adopt regulations relating to physician assistants from the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine created by NRS 633.181 to the Board of Medical Examiners created by NRS 630.050, any regulations adopted by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine that do not conflict with the provisions of this act remain in effect and may be enforced by the Board of Medical Examiners until the Board of Medical Examiners adopts regulations to repeal or replace those regulations.
 - 2. Any regulations adopted by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine created by NRS 633.181 that conflict with the provisions of this act are void. The Legislative Counsel shall remove those regulations from the Nevada Administrative Code as soon as practicable after January 1, 2018.
 - **Sec. 108.** NRS 633.107, 633.123, 633.432, 633.433, 633.4335, 633.4336, 633.434, 633.442, 633.452, 633.466, 633.467, 633.468 and 633.469 are hereby repealed.





Sec. 109. This act becomes effective:

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

2. On January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

633.107 "Physician assistant" defined.

633.123 "Supervising osteopathic physician" defined.

633.432 Authorized services.

 $633.433\,$ Issuance and conditions of license as physician assistant.

633.4335 Expedited license by endorsement to practice as physician assistant: Requirements; procedure for issuance.

633.4336 Expedited license by endorsement to practice as physician assistant for active member of Armed Forces, member's spouse, veteran or veteran's surviving spouse: Requirements; procedure for issuance; provisional license pending action on application.

633.434 Regulations concerning licensure of physician

assistants.

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633.442 Display of license; identification; separate billing prohibited.

633.452 Rendering of emergency care in emergency or disaster without supervision of osteopathic physician.

633.466 Supervision of physician assistant by physician; joint regulations.

633.467 Persons prohibited from acting as supervising osteopathic physician.

633.468 Supervising osteopathic physicians: Right to refuse to act as supervising osteopathic physician; certain agreements void.

633.469 Supervising osteopathic physicians: Requirements of supervision.





