

SENATE BILL NO. 151—SENATOR MANENDO

PREFILED FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Provides for the establishment of a public health laboratory in certain counties. (BDR 40-752)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: No.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 1)
(REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to public health; requiring the district board of health in certain counties to establish a public health laboratory; specifying the duties of the laboratory; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 This bill requires the district board of health in a county whose population is
2 700,000 or more (currently only Clark County) to establish, equip and maintain a
3 public health laboratory. The laboratory is required to: (1) analyze the purity of
4 food and drugs; (2) investigate cases and suspected cases of human exposure to
5 certain dangerous agents; (3) investigate cases and suspected cases of infectious
6 diseases and debilitating conditions; and (4) undertake other laboratory duties in the
7 interests of public health.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 439 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 ***1. The district board of health shall establish, equip and***
4 ***maintain a district public health laboratory. The chief medical***
5 ***officer or his or her designee is in charge of the laboratory.***

6 ***2. The district public health laboratory shall:***

7 ***(a) Analyze food and drugs for the purpose of enforcing laws***
8 ***concerning the standards of purity of food and drugs;***



1 ***(b) Analyze environmental factors to investigate cases or***
2 ***suspected cases of human exposure to infectious, contagious and***
3 ***communicable diseases, hazardous chemicals and other***
4 ***dangerous agents;***

5 ***(c) Investigate cases and suspected cases of infectious,***
6 ***contagious and communicable diseases and debilitating***
7 ***conditions; and***

8 ***(d) Undertake such other technical and laboratory duties as***
9 ***are in the interest of the health of the general public.***

10 ***3. Reports of investigations conducted at the district public***
11 ***health laboratory may be published from time to time in bulletins***
12 ***and circulars.***

13 ***4. The district board of health may set reasonable fees for***
14 ***performing tests on samples submitted to the district public health***
15 ***laboratory. Such fees must be for the sole purpose of defraying the***
16 ***costs and expenses of the laboratory and not for the purposes of***
17 ***general revenue.***

18 **Sec. 2.** NRS 439.361 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 439.361 The provisions of NRS 439.361 to 439.3685,
20 inclusive, ***and section 1 of this act*** apply to a county whose
21 population is 700,000 or more.

22 **Sec. 3.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
23 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
24 provisions of this act.

25 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

