

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 378—ASSEMBLYWOMAN HANSEN

MARCH 21, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

**SUMMARY**—Makes various changes relating to the transportation and admission of certain persons alleged to be a danger to themselves or others to certain facilities or hospitals. (BDR 34-711)

**FISCAL NOTE:** Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to mental health; requiring the model plan for the management of a crisis, emergency or suicide involving a school to include a plan for transporting a pupil with a mental illness to a mental health facility or hospital; clarifying that consent from any parent or legal guardian of a person is not necessary for the emergency admission of that person; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires the Department of Education to develop a model plan for the management of a suicide or a crisis or emergency that involves a public or private school and requires immediate action. (NRS 388.253) Existing law requires the development of a plan to be used by all public schools in a school district or a charter school in responding to a crisis or emergency, which must include the plans, procedures and information included in the model plan developed by the Department. (NRS 388.243) Existing law authorizes the emergency admission of a person who is determined to present a clear and present danger of harm to himself, herself or others as a result of mental illness to a public or private mental health facility or hospital for evaluation, observation and treatment. (NRS 433A.150) Existing law authorizes certain persons to make an application for such an emergency admission, including an officer authorized to make arrests in this State. (NRS 433A.160) **Section 1** of this bill requires the model plan to include a plan for transporting a pupil who is determined to present a clear and present danger of harm to himself or herself or others as a result of mental illness to a mental health facility or hospital for admission. **Section 2** of this bill clarifies that such a facility or hospital may accept for emergency admission any person for whom a proper application for emergency admission has been made, regardless of whether any



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parent or legal guardian of the person has consented to such admission. **Section 3** of this bill clarifies that a school police officer can also make an application for the involuntary court-ordered admission of a person to a mental health facility or to a program of community-based or outpatient services.

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

**Section 1.** NRS 388.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.253 1. The Department shall, with assistance from other state agencies, including, without limitation, the Division of Emergency Management, the Investigation Division, and the Nevada Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public Safety, develop a model plan for the management of:

(a) A suicide; or

(b) A crisis or emergency that involves a public school or a private school and that requires immediate action.

2. The model plan must include, without limitation, a procedure for:

(a) In response to a crisis or emergency:

(1) Coordinating the resources of local, state and federal agencies, officers and employees, as appropriate;

(2) Accounting for all persons within a school;

(3) Assisting persons within a school in a school district, a charter school or a private school to communicate with each other;

(4) Assisting persons within a school in a school district, a charter school or a private school to communicate with persons located outside the school, including, without limitation, relatives of pupils and relatives of employees of such a school, the news media and persons from local, state or federal agencies that are responding to a crisis or an emergency;

(5) Assisting pupils of a school in the school district, a charter school or a private school, employees of such a school and relatives of such pupils and employees to move safely within and away from the school, including, without limitation, a procedure for evacuating the school and a procedure for securing the school;

(6) Reunifying a pupil with his or her parent or legal guardian;

(7) Providing any necessary medical assistance;

(8) Recovering from a crisis or emergency;

(9) Carrying out a lockdown at a school; and

(10) Providing shelter in specific areas of a school;

(b) Providing specific information relating to managing a crisis or emergency that is a result of:



(1) An incident involving hazardous materials;  
(2) An incident involving mass casualties;  
(3) An incident involving an active shooter;  
(4) An outbreak of disease;  
(5) Any threat or hazard identified in the hazard mitigation plan of the county in which the school district is located, if such a plan exists; or

(6) Any other situation, threat or hazard deemed appropriate;  
(c) Providing pupils and staff at a school that has experienced a crisis, emergency or suicide with access to counseling and other resources to assist in recovering from the crisis, emergency or suicide; ~~and~~

(d) Evacuating pupils and employees of a charter school to a designated space within an identified public middle school, junior high school or high school in a school district that is separate from the general population of the school and large enough to accommodate the charter school, and such a space may include, without limitation, a gymnasium or multipurpose room of the public school ~~H~~; and

*(e) Transporting a pupil who is determined to be a person with mental illness, as defined in NRS 433A.115, to a public or private mental health facility or hospital for admission pursuant to NRS 433A.150.*

3. In developing the model plan, the Department shall consider the plans developed pursuant to NRS 388.243 and 394.1687 and updated pursuant to NRS 388.245 and 394.1688.

4. The Department shall require a school district to ensure that each public school in the school district identified pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 2 is prepared to allow a charter school to evacuate to the school when necessary in accordance with the procedure included in the model plan developed pursuant to subsection 1. A charter school shall hold harmless, indemnify and defend the school district to which it evacuates during a crisis or an emergency against any claim or liability arising from an act or omission by the school district or an employee or officer of the school district.

5. The Department may disseminate to any appropriate local, state or federal agency, officer or employee, as the Department determines is necessary:

(a) The model plan developed by the Department pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) A plan developed pursuant to NRS 388.243 or updated pursuant to NRS 388.245;

(c) A plan developed pursuant to NRS 394.1687 or updated pursuant to NRS 394.1688; and



(d) A deviation approved pursuant to NRS 388.251 or 394.1692.  
6. The Department shall, at least once each year, review and update as appropriate the model plan developed pursuant to subsection 1.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 433A.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433A.150 1. ~~{Any}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a* person alleged to be a person with mental illness may, upon application pursuant to NRS 433A.160 and subject to the provisions of subsection 2, be detained in a public or private mental health facility or hospital under an emergency admission for evaluation, observation and treatment ~~{ }~~ *, regardless of whether any parent or legal guardian of the person has consented to the admission.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a person detained pursuant to subsection 1 must be released within 72 hours, including weekends and holidays, after the certificate required pursuant to NRS 433A.170 and the examination required by paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 433A.165 have been completed, if such an examination is required, or within 72 hours, including weekends and holidays, after the person arrives at the mental health facility or hospital, if an examination is not required by paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 433A.165, unless, before the close of the business day on which the 72 hours expires, a written petition for an involuntary court-ordered admission to a mental health facility is filed with the clerk of the district court pursuant to NRS 433A.200, including, without limitation, the documents required pursuant to NRS 433A.210, or the status of the person is changed to a voluntary admission.

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.

**Sec. 3.** NRS 433A.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433A.200 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 and NRS 432B.6075, a proceeding for an involuntary court-ordered admission of any person in the State of Nevada may be commenced by the filing of a petition for the involuntary admission to a mental health facility or to a program of community-based or outpatient services with the clerk of the district court of the county where the person who is to be treated resides. The petition may be filed by the spouse, parent, adult children or legal guardian of the person to be treated or by any physician, physician assistant, psychologist, social worker or registered nurse, by an accredited agent of the Department or by any officer authorized to make arrests in the State of Nevada



1 **H**, *including, without limitation, a school police officer.* The  
2 petition must be accompanied:

3 (a) By a certificate of a physician, a licensed psychologist, a  
4 physician assistant under the supervision of a psychiatrist, a clinical  
5 social worker who has the psychiatric training and experience  
6 prescribed by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers pursuant  
7 to NRS 641B.160, an advanced practice registered nurse who has  
8 the psychiatric training and experience prescribed by the State  
9 Board of Nursing pursuant to NRS 632.120 or an accredited agent  
10 of the Department stating that he or she has examined the person  
11 alleged to be a person with mental illness and has concluded that the  
12 person has a mental illness and, because of that illness, is likely to  
13 harm himself or herself or others if allowed his or her liberty or if  
14 not required to participate in a program of community-based or  
15 outpatient services; or

16 (b) By a sworn written statement by the petitioner that:

17 (1) The petitioner has, based upon the petitioner's personal  
18 observation of the person alleged to be a person with mental illness,  
19 probable cause to believe that the person has a mental illness and,  
20 because of that illness, is likely to harm himself or herself or others  
21 if allowed his or her liberty or if not required to participate in a  
22 program of community-based or outpatient services; and

23 (2) The person alleged to be a person with mental illness has  
24 refused to submit to examination or treatment by a physician,  
25 psychiatrist, licensed psychologist or advanced practice registered  
26 nurse who has the psychiatric training and experience prescribed by  
27 the State Board of Nursing pursuant to NRS 632.120.

28 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 432B.6075, if the  
29 person to be treated is a minor and the petitioner is a person other  
30 than a parent or guardian of the minor, a petition submitted pursuant  
31 to subsection 1 must, in addition to the certificate or statement  
32 required by that subsection, include a statement signed by a parent  
33 or guardian of the minor that the parent or guardian does not object  
34 to the filing of the petition.

35 3. A proceeding for the involuntary court-ordered admission of  
36 a person who is the defendant in a criminal proceeding in the district  
37 court to a program of community-based or outpatient services may  
38 be commenced by the district court, on its own motion, or by motion  
39 of the defendant or the district attorney if:

40 (a) The defendant has been examined in accordance with  
41 NRS 178.415;

42 (b) The defendant is not eligible for commitment to the custody  
43 of the Administrator pursuant to NRS 178.461; and



1 (c) The Division makes a clinical determination that placement  
2 in a program of community-based or outpatient services is  
3 appropriate.

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

