

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 responding to a pupil with a mental illness; clarifying that consent from any parent or legal guardian of a person is not necessary for the emergency admission of that person; requiring a person who applies for the emergency admission of a child to attempt to obtain the consent of a parent or guardian of the child; requiring the notification of a parent or guardian of a child of the emergency admission of the child; 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 responding to a pupil who is determined to present a clear and present danger of



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harm to himself or herself or others as a result of mental illness, including: (1) utilizing mobile mental health crisis response units, where available; and (2) transporting the pupil 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 parent or legal guardian of the person has consented to such admission. **Section 2.2** of this bill requires a person, other than a parent or guardian, who applies for the emergency admission of a person who is less than 18 years of age to attempt to obtain the consent of a parent or guardian to make the application when practicable. **Section 2.5** of this bill requires a mental health facility or hospital to notify a parent or guardian within 24 hours of the emergency admission of a person who is less than 18 years of age.

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 ~~and~~; **and**
- (e) Responding to a pupil who is determined to be a person with mental illness, as defined in NRS 433A.115, including, without limitation:*
- (1) Utilizing mobile mental health crisis response units, where available, before transporting the pupil to a public or private mental health facility pursuant to subparagraph (2); and*
 - (2) Transporting the pupil 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. 2.2. NRS 433A.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433A.160 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an application for the emergency admission of a person alleged to be a person with mental illness for evaluation, observation and treatment may only be made by an accredited agent of the Department, an officer authorized to make arrests in the State of Nevada or a physician, physician assistant, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, social worker or registered nurse. The agent, officer, physician, physician assistant, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, social worker or registered nurse may:

(a) Without a warrant:

(1) Take a person alleged to be a person with mental illness into custody to apply for the emergency admission of the person for evaluation, observation and treatment; and

(2) Transport the person alleged to be a person with mental illness to a public or private mental health facility or hospital for that purpose, or arrange for the person to be transported 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;

(III) An entity that is exempt pursuant to NRS 706.745 from the provisions of NRS 706.386 or 706.421; or

(IV) If medically necessary, an ambulance service that holds a permit issued pursuant to the provisions of chapter 450B of NRS,

➔ only if the agent, officer, physician, physician assistant, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, social worker or registered nurse has, based upon his or her personal observation of the person alleged to be a person with mental illness, probable cause to believe that the person has a mental illness and, because of that illness, is likely to harm himself or herself or others if allowed his or her liberty.

(b) Apply to a district court for an order requiring:

(1) Any peace officer to take a person alleged to be a person with mental illness into custody to allow the applicant for the order to apply for the emergency admission of the person for evaluation, observation and treatment; and

(2) Any agency, system or service described in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) to transport the person alleged to be a person with mental illness to a public or private mental health facility or hospital for that purpose.



1 ➤ The district court may issue such an order only if it is satisfied
2 that there is probable cause to believe that the person has a mental
3 illness and, because of that illness, is likely to harm himself or
4 herself or others if allowed his or her liberty.

5 2. An application for the emergency admission of a person
6 alleged to be a person with mental illness for evaluation, observation
7 and treatment may be made by a spouse, parent, adult child or legal
8 guardian of the person. The spouse, parent, adult child or legal
9 guardian and any other person who has a legitimate interest in the
10 person alleged to be a person with mental illness may apply to a
11 district court for an order described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

12 3. The application for the emergency admission of a person
13 alleged to be a person with mental illness for evaluation, observation
14 and treatment must reveal the circumstances under which the person
15 was taken into custody and the reasons therefor.

16 4. *To the extent practicable, a person who applies for the*
17 *emergency admission of a person who is less than 18 years of age*
18 *to a public or private mental health facility or hospital, other than*
19 *a parent or guardian, shall attempt to obtain the consent of the*
20 *parent or guardian before making the application.*

21 5. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, each person
22 admitted to a public or private mental health facility or hospital
23 under an emergency admission must be evaluated at the time of
24 admission by a psychiatrist or a psychologist. If a psychiatrist or a
25 psychologist is not available to conduct an evaluation at the time of
26 admission, a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse who
27 has the training and experience prescribed by the State Board of
28 Nursing pursuant to NRS 632.120 may conduct the evaluation. Each
29 such emergency admission must be approved by a psychiatrist.

30 ~~5.1~~ 6. As used in this section, "an accredited agent of the
31 Department" means any person appointed or designated by the
32 Director of the Department to take into custody and transport to a
33 mental health facility pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 those persons
34 in need of emergency admission.

35 **Sec. 2.5.** NRS 433A.190 is hereby amended to read as
36 follows:

37 433A.190 Within 24 hours of a person's admission under
38 emergency admission, the administrative officer of a public or
39 private mental health facility shall give notice of such admission in
40 person, by telephone or facsimile and by certified mail to the spouse
41 or legal guardian *of that person or, if the person is less than 18*
42 *years of age, the parent or legal guardian* of that person.



- 1 **Sec. 3.** (Deleted by amendment.)
2 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

