

SENATE BILL NO. 372—COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARCH 26, 2021

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to injury caused by fire.  
(BDR 54-1007)

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 fire; revising reporting requirements relating to the treatment of persons who sustain burn injuries; revising provisions relating to the investigation of those reports; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires every provider of health care to whom any person comes or is brought for the treatment of certain injuries related to burns to: (1) promptly report certain information to the appropriate local fire department; and (2) submit a written report on a form provided by the State Fire Marshal within 3 working days after treating that person to the appropriate local fire department in counties whose population is 45,000 or more (currently Clark, Washoe, Lyon, Elko and Douglas County and Carson City) or the State Fire Marshal in all other counties. (NRS 629.045) **Section 1** of this bill limits the burn injuries that a provider of health care is required to report to only those burn injuries sustained from an open flame, explosion or flash fire. **Section 1** also: (1) extends the time to submit the written report to 7 working days after treating the person; (2) requires the written report to be submitted to the appropriate local fire department only in counties who population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) and to the State Fire Marshal in all other counties; and (3) requires the written report to be on a form approved by, rather than provided by, the appropriate local fire department or the State Fire Marshal, as applicable. Existing law requires each fire department to investigate any report received relating to the treatment of persons who sustain certain injuries related to burns to determine the origin of the fire which caused the injury. (NRS 475.125) **Section 2** of this bill authorizes, rather than requires, each fire department to investigate any such report.



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

**Section 1.** NRS 629.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

629.045 1. Every provider of health care to whom any person *who sustains an injury caused by an open flame, explosion or flash fire* comes or is brought for the treatment of:

(a) Second or third degree burns to 5 percent or more of the body;

(b) Burns to the upper respiratory tract or laryngeal edema resulting from the inhalation of heated air; or

(c) Burns which may result in death,

➔ shall promptly report that information to the appropriate local fire department.

2. The report required by subsection 1 must include:

(a) The name and address of the person treated, if known;

(b) The location of the person treated; and

(c) The character and extent of the injuries.

3. A person required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 shall, within ~~[3]~~ 7 working days after treating the person, submit a written report to:

(a) The appropriate local fire department in counties whose population is ~~[45,000]~~ 100,000 or more; or

(b) The State Fire Marshal in counties whose population is less than ~~[45,000.]~~ 100,000.

➔ The report must be on a form ~~[provided]~~ *approved* by the *appropriate local fire department or the* State Fire Marshal ~~[ ]~~, *as applicable*.

4. A provider of health care and his or her agents and employees are immune from any civil action for any disclosures made in good faith in accordance with the provisions of this section or any consequential damages.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 475.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:

475.125 Each fire department ~~[:]~~ *may investigate:*

1. ~~[May investigate the]~~ *The* cause, origin and circumstances of each fire which occurs within its jurisdiction and which results in the destruction of or damage to property, loss of life, or injury to any person.

2. ~~[Shall investigate any]~~ *Any* report received pursuant to NRS 629.045 to determine the origin of the fire which caused the injury.

**Sec. 3.** Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 218D.430 and 218D.435, a committee, other than the Assembly Standing Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Standing Committee on Finance, may vote on this act before the expiration of the period



- 1 prescribed for the return of a fiscal note in NRS 218D.475. This
- 2 section applies retroactively from and after March 22, 2021.

