

Assembly Bill No. 116—Assemblymen Brown-May; González, Gorelow, Gray, Newby, Nguyen, Orentlicher, Peters, Taylor and Thomas

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to health care; requiring certain providers of health care or other services and midwives to provide current, evidence-based information concerning Down syndrome to a person under certain circumstances; requiring certain providers of health care or other services and midwives to make certain referrals; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the testing of newborn children and persons who are pregnant to detect certain disorders and conditions. (NRS 442.010-442.020, 442.500-442.700) Existing law provides for the dissemination of information concerning certain conditions affecting a person who is pregnant and newborn children. (NRS 442.340, 442.385, 442.390, 442.590, 442.660) This bill requires a provider of health care or other services or midwife who provides prenatal care or pediatric care to provide certain information concerning Down syndrome and support services in the community for persons with Down syndrome to: (1) a person who is pregnant and has received a positive test result from a prenatal test for Down syndrome if the person requests such information; or (2) the parent or guardian of a child with Down syndrome. This bill also requires such a provider or midwife to refer such a person to appropriate support services in the community when necessary. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to post on an Internet website maintained by the Department a list of such support services available in different areas of this State.

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

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

Section 1. Chapter 442 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Upon receipt of a positive test result from a prenatal test for Down syndrome performed on a person who is pregnant, a provider of health care or other services or a midwife who provides prenatal care or pediatric care shall ask the person who is pregnant if the person wishes to receive information concerning Down syndrome pursuant to subsection 2.

2. Upon receipt of a positive test result from a postnatal test for Down syndrome performed on a child or if a person chooses to receive information concerning Down syndrome pursuant to subsection 1, a provider of health care or other services or a



midwife who provides prenatal care or pediatric care shall provide the person who is pregnant or the parent or guardian of the child, as applicable, with:

(a) Written information concerning Down syndrome that is current and based on peer-reviewed medical literature and research. Such information must include, without limitation:

(1) The current life expectancy for people with Down syndrome;

(2) The standard intellectual and functional development of a person with Down syndrome; and

(3) The clinical course and treatment options for a person with Down syndrome.

(b) Any necessary referral to support services in the community for people with Down syndrome and parents or guardians of such persons, including, without limitation, early intervention, resource centers, hotlines and other education and support programs.

2. The Department shall post on an Internet website maintained by the Department a list of support services available in the community for people with Down syndrome and parents or guardians of such persons in different areas of this State.

3. The State Board of Health may adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

