

SENATE BILL NO. 117—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE
ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES)

FEBRUARY 8, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to community health workers. (BDR 40-333)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

~

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

AN ACT relating to health care; prohibiting a person from holding himself or herself out as a certified community health worker unless he or she holds certain certification; establishing a civil penalty for such a violation; authorizing Medicaid coverage for the services of certain community health workers; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law prohibits a person from holding himself or herself out as licensed, certified or registered to engage in certain professions, such as massage therapy, embalming and sign language interpreting, without holding the proper licensure, certification or registration. (NRS 640C.910, 642.580, 656A.800) **Section 1** of this bill: (1) similarly prohibits a person from holding himself or herself out as a certified community health worker unless he or she is certified as such by the Nevada Certification Board; and (2) establishes a \$500 civil penalty to be imposed against a person who violates that prohibition.

Existing law requires the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to include in the State Plan for Medicaid coverage for the services of a community health worker who is supervised by a physician, physician assistant or advance practice registered nurse. (NRS 422.2722) **Section 2** of this bill authorizes the Director to include in the State Plan coverage for services of community health workers who are supervised by other types of providers of health care.



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

Section 1. Chapter 449 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. A person shall not hold himself or herself out as a certified community health worker unless the person has been certified by the Nevada Certification Board, or its successor organization.

2. A person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 is liable for a civil penalty to be recovered by the Attorney General in the name of the Board of not more than \$500 for each violation. Unless otherwise required by federal law, the Board shall deposit all civil penalties collected pursuant to this section into a separate account in the State General Fund to be used to administer and carry out the provisions of this section, NRS 449.001 to 449.430, inclusive, 449.435 to 449.531, inclusive, and chapter 449A of NRS and to protect the health, safety, well-being and property of the persons served by community health workers.

Sec. 2. NRS 422.2722 is hereby amended to read as follows:

422.2722 1. The Director shall include in the State Plan for Medicaid a requirement that the State, to the extent authorized by federal law, pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for the services of a community health worker who provides services under the supervision of a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.

2. The Director may include in the State Plan for Medicaid a requirement that the State, to the extent authorized by federal law, pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for the services of community health workers who provide services under the supervision of specified types of providers of health care, other than those described in subsection 1.

3. As used in this section ~~["community"]~~ :

(a) "Community health worker" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0027.

(b) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 3. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any policies and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On July 1, 2023, for all other purposes.

