

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to physicians; revising certain provisions governing certain continuing education requirements for physicians; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law generally provides for the regulation of allopathic and osteopathic physicians in this State. (Chapters 630 and 633 of NRS) **Section 1** of this bill authorizes an allopathic physician to substitute not more than 2 hours of continuing education credits in pain management or addiction care for the purposes of satisfying an equivalent requirement for continuing education in ethics. **Section 2** of this bill requires the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine to require, as part of the continuing education requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by an osteopathic physician of at least 2 hours of credit in ethics, pain management or addiction care.

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

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

**Section 1.** NRS 630.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
630.253 1. The Board shall, as a prerequisite for the:

- (a) Renewal of a license as a physician assistant; or
- (b) Biennial registration of the holder of a license to practice medicine,

↪ require each holder to comply with the requirements for continuing education adopted by the Board.

2. These requirements:

(a) May provide for the completion of one or more courses of instruction relating to risk management in the performance of medical services.

(b) Must provide for the completion of a course of instruction, within 2 years after initial licensure, relating to the medical consequences of an act of terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction. The course must provide at least 4 hours of instruction that includes instruction in the following subjects:

- (1) An overview of acts of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction;
- (2) Personal protective equipment required for acts of terrorism;



(3) Common symptoms and methods of treatment associated with exposure to, or injuries caused by, chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear agents;

(4) Syndromic surveillance and reporting procedures for acts of terrorism that involve biological agents; and

(5) An overview of the information available on, and the use of, the Health Alert Network.

↳ The Board may thereafter determine whether to include in a program of continuing education additional courses of instruction relating to the medical consequences of an act of terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

3. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license who treats or cares for persons who are more than 60 years of age to receive, as a portion of their continuing education, education in geriatrics and gerontology, including such topics as:

(a) The skills and knowledge that the licensee needs to address aging issues;

(b) Approaches to providing health care to older persons, including both didactic and clinical approaches;

(c) The biological, behavioral, social and emotional aspects of the aging process; and

(d) The importance of maintenance of function and independence for older persons.

4. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to practice medicine to receive, as a portion of his or her continuing education, training concerning methods for educating patients about how to effectively manage medications, including, without limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the symptom or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the label attached to the container of the drug.

5. *A holder of a license to practice medicine may substitute not more than 2 hours of continuing education credits in pain management or addiction care for the purposes of satisfying an equivalent requirement for continuing education in ethics.*

6. As used in this section:

(a) "Act of terrorism" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.4415.

(b) "Biological agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.442.

(c) "Chemical agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.4425.

(d) "Radioactive agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.4437.



(e) "Weapon of mass destruction" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.4445.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 633.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:

633.471 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~1~~ 6 and NRS 633.491, every holder of a license issued under this chapter, except a temporary or a special license, may renew the license on or before January 1 of each calendar year after its issuance by:

(a) Applying for renewal on forms provided by the Board;

(b) Paying the annual license renewal fee specified in this chapter;

(c) Submitting a list of all actions filed or claims submitted to arbitration or mediation for malpractice or negligence against the holder during the previous year;

(d) Submitting an affidavit to the Board that in the year preceding the application for renewal the holder has attended courses or programs of continuing education approved by the Board totaling a number of hours established by the Board which must not be less than 35 hours nor more than that set in the requirements for continuing medical education of the American Osteopathic Association; and

(e) Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.

2. The Secretary of the Board shall notify each licensee of the requirements for renewal not less than 30 days before the date of renewal.

3. The Board shall request submission of verified evidence of completion of the required number of hours of continuing medical education annually from no fewer than one-third of the applicants for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine or a license to practice as a physician assistant. Upon a request from the Board, an applicant for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic medicine or a license to practice as a physician assistant shall submit verified evidence satisfactory to the Board that in the year preceding the application for renewal the applicant attended courses or programs of continuing medical education approved by the Board totaling the number of hours established by the Board.

4. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine to receive, as a portion of his or her continuing education, training concerning methods for educating patients about how to effectively manage medications, including, without limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the symptom or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the label attached to the container of the drug.



5. *The Board shall require, as part of the continuing education requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by a holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine of at least 2 hours of continuing education credits in ethics, pain management or addiction care.*

6. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the United States Public Health Service are exempt from payment of the annual license renewal fee during their active duty status.

**Secs. 3-18.** (Deleted by amendment.)

