#### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 346–ASSEMBLYMEN JONES, MOORE; FIORE AND SHELTON

## MARCH 16, 2015

## Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing billing for hospital care and related services. (BDR 40-897)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. 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; requiring a hospital to make its uniform list of billed charges available for public inspection; requiring a provider of health care who has staff privileges at a hospital to maintain and use a uniform list of charges for all services and goods provided to patients at a hospital; authorizing disciplinary action against a hospital or provider of health care for failing to comply with requirements concerning charges and billing; requiring a hospital to provide a patient with all bills relating to hospital care and related services provided by other providers in one mailing; requiring certain providers of health care who have staff privileges at a hospital and emergency transportation providers to provide bills for certain services to the hospital for inclusion in such a mailing; revising provisions governing collection efforts on amounts owed for hospital care and related services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires a hospital to: (1) maintain and use a uniform list of billed charges for all goods and services provided to inpatients at the hospital; and (2) make available to the public a summary of charges for common services for patients admitted at the hospital. (NRS 439B.400, 449.243) **Section 1** of this bill expands the applicability to goods and services provided to all patients of the hospital and requires the list of billed charges to be made available for public inspection. **Section 1** also requires certain health care providers who have staff privileges at a hospital to: (1) maintain a list of charges for services provided at the





9 hospital; and (2) provide the list to the hospital to maintain with the list of billed
10 charges of the hospital that is made available for public inspection. Section 3 of this
11 bill removes a similar requirement that a hospital make available to the public a
12 summary of charges for common services for patients admitted at the hospital.
13 Sections 2 and 7-20 of this bill authorize disciplinary action against a hospital or
14 health care provider for failing to maintain or make public a uniform list of billed
15 charges.

16 Existing law requires each hospital and provider of health care to, on the bill 17 provided to a patient, itemize all charges for services, equipment, supplies and 18 medicines provided to the patient in terms which the patient is able to understand. 19 (NRS 449.243, 629.071) Section 3 also requires a hospital to provide all bills for 20 services, equipment, supplies and medicines provided to a patient at the hospital 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 and while being transported to the hospital in one mailing. Sections 5 and 6 of this bill require a provider of emergency medical services who transports a person to a hospital and a provider of health care who has staff privileges at a hospital to provide a bill for any service provided at the hospital to the hospital for inclusion in such a mailing.

Existing law prohibits a hospital from proceeding with efforts to collect any amount owed to the hospital: (1) until the hospital has submitted a bill to a health insurance company or public program that may pay all or part of the bill and the  $\overline{29}$ insurance company or public program has made a determination concerning the  $\overline{30}$ payment of the claim; and (2) until 30 days after sending a bill to the responsible 31 party. (NRS 449.757) Section 4 of this bill: (1) makes this provision applicable to 32 33 providers of health care who have staff privileges at a hospital; and (2) prohibits the hospital or provider from proceeding with efforts to collect any amount owed to the 34 hospital or provider until the mailing containing all bills for services, equipment, 35 supplies and medicines provided to a patient at the hospital has been sent. Section 5 36 prohibits certain providers of emergency medical services from proceeding with 37 efforts to collect any amount owed to the provider for transportation to the hospital 38 until 30 days after such a mailing has been sent. Sections 7-20 authorize 39 disciplinary action to be taken against a hospital or provider of health care for 40 proceeding with efforts to collect in violation of this prohibition. A provider of 41 emergency medical services who proceeds with efforts to collect in violation of this 42 prohibition is subject to the revocation or suspension of his or her permit for the 43 operation of an ambulance, an air ambulance or a vehicle of a fire-fighting agency 44 at the scene of an emergency.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 439B.400 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

3 439B.400 *1*. Each hospital in this State shall maintain and 4 use a uniform list of billed charges for that hospital for units of 5 service or goods provided to all <u>[inpatients.]</u> patients and make the 6 uniform list available for public inspection.

7 2. Each practitioner who has staff privileges at a hospital 8 shall maintain and use a uniform list of charges for services 9 provided at the hospital and provide the list to the hospital to 10 maintain with the uniform list of billed charges for the hospital





maintained pursuant to subsection 1. The hospital must make the
 list available for public inspection.

3. A hospital or a practitioner who has staff privileges at a
hospital may not use a billed charge for [an inpatient] a patient that
is different than the billed charge used for another [inpatient] patient
for the same service or goods provided.

7 4. This section does not restrict the ability of a hospital ,
8 practitioner or other person to negotiate a discounted rate from the
9 hospital's or practitioner's billed charges or to contract for a
10 different rate or mechanism for payment of the hospital [...] or
11 practitioner.

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Sec. 2. NRS 449.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 449.160 1. The Division may deny an application for a 14 license or may suspend or revoke any license issued under the 15 provisions of NRS 449.030 to 449.2428, inclusive, upon any of the 16 following grounds:

17 (a) Violation by the applicant or the licensee of any of the 18 provisions of NRS 439B.410 or 449.030 to 449.245, inclusive, or of 19 any other law of this State or of the standards, rules and regulations 20 adopted thereunder.

(b) Aiding, abetting or permitting the commission of any illegal
 act.

(c) Conduct inimical to the public health, morals, welfare and
safety of the people of the State of Nevada in the maintenance and
operation of the premises for which a license is issued.

26 (d) Conduct or practice detrimental to the health or safety of the
 27 occupants or employees of the facility.

(e) Failure of the applicant to obtain written approval from the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services as required by NRS 439A.100 or as provided in any regulation adopted pursuant to NRS 449.001 to 449.430, inclusive, and 449.435 to 449.965, inclusive, if such approval is required.

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(f) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 449.2486.

(g) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400.

2. In addition to the provisions of subsection 1, the Division may revoke a license to operate a facility for the dependent if, with respect to that facility, the licensee that operates the facility, or an agent or employee of the licensee:

39 (a) Is convicted of violating any of the provisions of 40 NRS 202.470;

(b) Is ordered to but fails to abate a nuisance pursuant to NRS
244.360, 244.3603 or 268.4124; or

43 (c) Is ordered by the appropriate governmental agency to correct
44 a violation of a building, safety or health code or regulation but fails
45 to correct the violation.





1 3. The Division shall maintain a log of any complaints that it 2 receives relating to activities for which the Division may revoke the 3 license to operate a facility for the dependent pursuant to subsection 4 2. The Division shall provide to a facility for the care of adults 5 during the day:

6 (a) A summary of a complaint against the facility if the investigation of the complaint by the Division either substantiates 7 8 the complaint or is inconclusive;

9 (b) A report of any investigation conducted with respect to the 10 complaint; and

(c) A report of any disciplinary action taken against the facility. 11

12 → The facility shall make the information available to the public 13 pursuant to NRS 449.2486.

On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year, the 14 4. 15 Division shall submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel 16 Bureau a written report setting forth, for the previous biennium:

17 (a) Any complaints included in the log maintained by the 18 Division pursuant to subsection 3; and

19 (b) Any disciplinary actions taken by the Division pursuant to 20 subsection 2. 21

NRS 449.243 is hereby amended to read as follows: Sec. 3.

22 449.243 Every hospital licensed pursuant to the provisions of 23 NRS 449.030 to 449.2428, inclusive:

24 May, except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, utilize 25 the Uniform Billing and Claims Forms established by the American 26 Hospital Association.

27 2. Shall, except as otherwise provided in this section, on its 28 billings to patients, itemize, on a daily basis, all charges for services, 29 and charges for equipment used and the supplies and medicines 30 provided incident to the provision of those services with specificity 31 and in language that is understandable to an ordinary lay person. 32 This itemized list must be timely provided after the patient is 33 discharged at no additional cost.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a patient 34 35 is charged a rate, pursuant to a contract or other agreement, that is 36 different than the billed charges, shall provide to the patient either:

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(a) A copy of the billing prepared pursuant to subsection 2; (b) A statement specifying the agreed rate for the services; or

(c) If the patient is not obligated to pay any portion of the bill, a 39 40 statement of the total charges.

→ In any case, the hospital shall include on the billing or statement 41 42 any copayment or deductible for which the patient is responsible. 43 The hospital shall answer any questions regarding the bill.

44 If the hospital is paid by the insurer of a patient a rate that is 4. 45 based on the number of persons treated and not on the services





1 actually rendered, shall, upon the discharge of the patient, advise the

2 patient of the status of any copayment or deductible for which the3 patient is responsible.

4 Shall [prepare a summary of charges for common services 5. 5 for patients admitted to the hospital and make it available to the public.] enclose each bill for services, including, without 6 7 limitation, services provided by a provider of health care who has staff privileges at the hospital and transportation and care 8 provided by a provider of emergency medical services, as defined 9 in NRS 450B.790, and charges for equipment used and the 10 supplies and medicines provided incident to the provision of those 11 12 services in one mailing to the responsible party, as defined in 13 NRS 449.755. Such a mailing must not be sent to the responsible party until the hospital has received each bill from a provider of 14 15 health care who has staff privileges at the hospital pursuant to 16 NRS 629.071.

17 6. Shall provide to any patient upon request a copy of the 18 billing prepared pursuant to subsection 2.

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Sec. 4. NRS 449.757 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 449.757 1. When a person receives hospital care, the hospital 21 or a provider of health care who provided care at the hospital must 22 not proceed with any efforts to collect on any amount owed to the 23 hospital or provider of health care, as applicable, for the hospital 24 care from the responsible party, other than for any copayment or deductible, if the responsible party has health insurance or may be 25 26 eligible for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program or any other public program which may pay all or part of the bill, until 27 28 the hospital *or provider* has submitted a bill to the health insurance 29 company or public program and the health insurance company or 30 public program has made a determination concerning payment of 31 the claim.

32 2. Collection efforts may begin and interest may begin to 33 accrue on any amount owed to the hospital or a provider of health *care, as applicable,* for hospital care which remains unpaid by the 34 35 responsible party not sooner than 30 days after the responsible party 36 is sent a bill [by mail] in a mailing that meets the requirements of 37 **NRS** 449.243 stating the amount that he or she is responsible to pay 38 which has been established after receiving a determination 39 concerning payment of the claim by any insurer or public program 40 and after applying any discounts.

**3.** Interest *on any amount owed to the hospital* must accrue at a rate which does not exceed the prime rate at the largest bank in Nevada as ascertained by the Commissioner of Financial Institutions on January 1 or July 1, as the case may be, immediately preceding the date on which the payment becomes due, plus 2 percent. The





rate must be adjusted accordingly on each January 1 and July 1
 thereafter until the payment is satisfied.

3 [3.] 4. Except for the interest authorized pursuant to subsection 4 2 and any court costs and attorney's fees awarded by a court, no 5 other fees may be charged concerning the amount that remains 6 unpaid, including, without limitation, collection fees, other 7 attorney's fees or any other fees or costs.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 450B.790 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 450B.790 1. Each hospital in this State which receives a person in need of emergency services and care who has been 10 transported to the hospital by a provider of emergency medical 11 12 services shall ensure that the person is transferred to a bed, chair, 13 gurney or other appropriate place in the hospital to receive emergency services and care as soon as practicable, but not later 14 15 than 30 minutes after the time at which the person arrives at the 16 hospital.

17 [2.] This [section] subsection does not create a duty of care and 18 is not a ground for civil or criminal liability.

19 2. Each provider of emergency medical services who 20 transports a person to a hospital shall provide to the hospital each 21 bill for such transportation and all care provided to the person 22 during the transportation for inclusion in the mailing required 23 pursuant to NRS 449.243.

3. Collection efforts may begin and interest may begin to accrue on any amount owed to a provider of emergency medical services for transportation to a hospital or care during such transportation which remains unpaid by the responsible party not sooner than 30 days after the responsible party is sent a bill in a mailing that meets the requirements of NRS 449.243 stating the amount that he or she is responsible to pay.

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4. As used in this section:

(a) "Emergency services and care" has the meaning ascribed toit in NRS 439B.410.

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(b) "Hospital" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.012.

(c) "Provider of emergency medical services" means each
operator of an ambulance *or air ambulance* and each fire-fighting
agency which has a permit to operate pursuant to this chapter and
which provides transportation for persons in need of emergency
services and care to hospitals.

40 (d) "Responsible party" means the person who received the 41 transportation to a hospital, the parent or guardian of the person 42 who received the transportation to a hospital or another natural 43 person who is legally responsible or has agreed to be responsible 44 for the payment to the provider of emergency medical services of





1 any charges incurred in connection with the transportation to a

- 2 hospital.
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Sec. 6. NRS 629.071 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 629.071 *1.* Each provider of health care shall, on the bill to a 5 patient, itemize all charges for services, equipment, supplies and 6 medicines provided for the patient in terms which the patient is able 7 to understand. The bill must be timely provided after the charge is 8 incurred at no additional cost to the patient.

9 2. Each provider of health care who has staff privileges at a 10 hospital shall provide to the hospital each bill for a service 11 provided at the hospital for inclusion in the mailing required 12 pursuant to NRS 449.243.

13 Sec. 7. NRS 630.305 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 630.305 1. The following acts, among others, constitute 15 grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure:

(a) Directly or indirectly receiving from any person, corporation
or other business organization any fee, commission, rebate or other
form of compensation which is intended or tends to influence the
physician's objective evaluation or treatment of a patient.

20 (b) Dividing a fee between licensees except where the patient is 21 informed of the division of fees and the division of fees is made in 22 proportion to the services personally performed and the 23 responsibility assumed by each licensee.

(c) Referring, in violation of NRS 439B.425, a patient to a
health facility, medical laboratory or commercial establishment in
which the licensee has a financial interest.

(d) Charging for visits to the physician's office which did not
occur or for services which were not rendered or documented in the
records of the patient.

30 (e) Aiding, assisting, employing or advising, directly or 31 indirectly, any unlicensed person to engage in the practice of 32 medicine contrary to the provisions of this chapter or the regulations 33 of the Board.

(f) Delegating responsibility for the care of a patient to a person
if the licensee knows, or has reason to know, that the person is not
qualified to undertake that responsibility.

37 (g) Failing to disclose to a patient any financial or other conflict 38 of interest.

(h) Failing to initiate the performance of community service
within 1 year after the date the community service is required to
begin, if the community service was imposed as a requirement of
the licensee's receiving loans or scholarships from the Federal
Government or a state or local government for the licensee's
medical education.





1 (i) Failing to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 2 449.757.

2. Nothing in this section prohibits a physician from forming an association or other business relationship with an optometrist pursuant to the provisions of NRS 636.373.

**Sec. 8.** NRS 630A.360 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 630A.360 The following acts, among others, constitute 8 grounds for initiating disciplinary action or denying the issuance of 9 a license:

10 1. Directly or indirectly receiving from any person any fee, 11 commission, rebate or other form of compensation which tends or is 12 intended to influence the physician's objective evaluation or 13 treatment of a patient.

2. Dividing a fee between homeopathic physicians, unless the patient is informed of the division of fees and the division is made in proportion to the services personally performed and the responsibility assumed by each homeopathic physician.

18 3. Charging for visits to the homeopathic physician's office 19 which did not occur or for services which were not rendered or 20 documented in the records of the patient.

4. Employing, directly or indirectly, any suspended or unlicensed person in the practice of homeopathic medicine, or the aiding, abetting or assisting of any unlicensed person to practice homeopathic medicine contrary to the provisions of this chapter or the regulations adopted by the Board.

5. Advertising the services of an unlicensed person in the practice of homeopathic medicine.

6. Delegating responsibility for the care of a patient to a person whom the homeopathic physician knows, or has reason to know, is not qualified to undertake that responsibility.

7. Failing to disclose to a patient any financial or other conflict of interest affecting the care of the patient.

33 8. Failing to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 34 449.757.

**Sec. 9.** NRS 631.3485 is hereby amended to read as follows:

631.3485 The following acts, among others, constitute
 unprofessional conduct:

1. Willful or repeated violations of the provisions of this chapter;

2. Willful or repeated violations of the regulations of the State
Board of Health, the State Board of Pharmacy or the Board of
Dental Examiners of Nevada;

3. Failure to pay the fees for a license; or

44 4. Failure to make the health care records of a patient available 45 for inspection and copying as provided in NRS 629.061.



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Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 1 5. 2 449.757.

Sec. 10. NRS 632.320 is hereby amended to read as follows: 3 4 632.320 1. The Board may deny, revoke or suspend any 5 license or certificate applied for or issued pursuant to this chapter, or 6 take other disciplinary action against a licensee or holder of a 7 certificate, upon determining that the licensee or certificate holder:

8 (a) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to 9 procure a license or certificate pursuant to this chapter.

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(b) Is guilty of any offense: (1) Involving moral turpitude; or

11 12 (2) Related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a 13 licensee or holder of a certificate,

 $\rightarrow$  in which case the record of conviction is conclusive evidence 14 15 thereof.

16 (c) Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of 17 NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 18 inclusive.

19 (d) Is unfit or incompetent by reason of gross negligence or 20 recklessness in carrying out usual nursing functions.

21 (e) Uses any controlled substance, dangerous drug as defined in 22 chapter 454 of NRS, or intoxicating liquor to an extent or in a 23 manner which is dangerous or injurious to any other person or 24 which impairs his or her ability to conduct the practice authorized 25 by the license or certificate.

(f) Is a person with mental incompetence.

27 (g) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is 28 not limited to, the following:

29 (1) Conviction of practicing medicine without a license in 30 violation of chapter 630 of NRS, in which case the record of 31 conviction is conclusive evidence thereof.

32 (2) Impersonating any applicant or acting as proxy for an 33 applicant in any examination required pursuant to this chapter for the issuance of a license or certificate. 34

35 (3) Impersonating another licensed practitioner or holder of a 36 certificate.

37 (4) Permitting or allowing another person to use his or her license or certificate to practice as a licensed practical nurse, 38 39 registered nurse, nursing assistant or medication aide - certified.

40 (5) Repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced by claims of malpractice settled against the licensee or certificate holder. 41 42

(6) Physical, verbal or psychological abuse of a patient.

43 (7) Conviction for the use or unlawful possession of a 44 controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of 45 NRS.





1 (h) Has willfully or repeatedly violated the provisions of this 2 chapter. The voluntary surrender of a license or certificate issued 3 pursuant to this chapter is prima facie evidence that the licensee or 4 certificate holder has committed or expects to commit a violation of 5 this chapter.

6 (i) Is guilty of aiding or abetting any person in a violation of this 7 chapter.

8 (j) Has falsified an entry on a patient's medical chart concerning 9 a controlled substance.

10 (k) Has falsified information which was given to a physician, 11 pharmacist, podiatric physician or dentist to obtain a controlled 12 substance.

(1) Has knowingly procured or administered a controlled
substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that
is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

17 (1) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed 18 pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS;

19 (2) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 20 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 21 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 22 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

23 (3) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in24 accordance with chapter 453A of NRS.

(m) Has been disciplined in another state in connection with a
license to practice nursing or a certificate to practice as a nursing
assistant or medication aide - certified, or has committed an act in
another state which would constitute a violation of this chapter.

(n) Has engaged in conduct likely to deceive, defraud orendanger a patient or the general public.

(o) Has willfully failed to comply with a regulation, subpoena ororder of the Board.

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(p) Has operated a medical facility at any time during which:

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(1) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or

35 (2) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the 36 suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the facility.

### 39 (q) Has failed to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 40 or 449.757.

2. For the purposes of this section, a plea or verdict of guilty or
guilty but mentally ill or a plea of nolo contendere constitutes a
conviction of an offense. The Board may take disciplinary action
pending the appeal of a conviction.





1 3. A licensee or certificate holder is not subject to disciplinary 2 action solely for administering auto-injectable epinephrine pursuant 3 to a valid order issued pursuant to NRS 630.374 or 633.707. NRS 633.511 is hereby amended to read as follows: 4 Sec. 11. 5 633.511 The grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant 6 to this chapter are: 7 Unprofessional conduct. 1. 8 2. Conviction of: (a) A violation of any federal or state law regulating the 9 possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance or any 10 dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS; 11 12 (b) A felony relating to the practice of osteopathic medicine or 13 practice as a physician assistant; (c) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 14 15 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive; 16 (d) Murder, voluntary manslaughter or mayhem; (e) Any felony involving the use of a firearm or other deadly 17 18 weapon; (f) Assault with intent to kill or to commit sexual assault or 19 20 mayhem; 21 (g) Sexual assault, statutory sexual seduction, incest, lewdness, 22 indecent exposure or any other sexually related crime; 23 (h) Abuse or neglect of a child or contributory delinquency; or 24 (i) Any offense involving moral turpitude. 25 3. The suspension of a license to practice osteopathic medicine 26 or to practice as a physician assistant by any other jurisdiction. 27 Malpractice or gross malpractice, which may be evidenced 4. 28 by a claim of malpractice settled against a licensee. 29 5. Professional incompetence. 30 6. Failure to comply with the requirements of NRS 633.527. Failure to comply with the requirements of subsection 3 of 31 7. 32 NRS 633.471. 33 8. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.694. 9. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, 34 35 at any time during which: 36 (a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or 37 (b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or 38 revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160. 39 This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible 40 for the operation of the facility. 10. Failure to comply with the provisions of subsection 2 of 41 42 NRS 633.322. 43 11. Signing a blank prescription form. 44 12. Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled 45 substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that

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is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

3 (a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to 4 chapter 639 of NRS;

5 (b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 6 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 7 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 8 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

9 (c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance 10 with chapter 453A of NRS.

11 13. Attempting, directly or indirectly, by intimidation, coercion 12 or deception, to obtain or retain a patient or to discourage the use of 13 a second opinion.

14 14. Terminating the medical care of a patient without adequate 15 notice or without making other arrangements for the continued care 16 of the patient.

17 15. In addition to the provisions of subsection 3 of NRS 18 633.524, making or filing a report which the licensee knows to be 19 false, failing to file a record or report that is required by law or 20 willfully obstructing or inducing another to obstruct the making or 21 filing of such a record or report.

16. Failure to report any person the licensee knows, or has reason to know, is in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the Board within 30 days after the date the licensee knows or has reason to know of the violation.

17. Failure by a licensee or applicant to report in writing, within 30 days, any criminal action taken or conviction obtained against the licensee or applicant, other than a minor traffic violation, in this State or any other state or by the Federal Government, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or any local or federal jurisdiction of a foreign country.

32 18. Engaging in any act that is unsafe in accordance with 33 regulations adopted by the Board.

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19. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.165.

20. Failure to supervise adequately a medical assistant pursuantto the regulations of the Board.

37 21. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 38 449.757.

39 Sec. 12. NRS 634.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 634.140 The grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant 41 to this chapter are:

1. Unprofessional conduct.

2. Conviction of:





1 (a) A violation of any federal or state law regulating the 2 possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance or any 3 dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS;

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(b) A felony relating to the practice of chiropractic;

5 (c) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 6 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive; or

(d) Any offense involving moral turpitude.

8 3. Suspension or revocation of the license to practice 9 chiropractic by any other jurisdiction.

4. Gross or repeated malpractice.

5. Referring, in violation of NRS 439B.425, a patient to a health facility, medical laboratory or commercial establishment in which the licensee has a financial interest.

6. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151,at any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

(b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension orrevocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

19  $\rightarrow$  This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible 20 for the operation of the facility.

21 7. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 22 449.757.

Sec. 13. NRS 634A.170 is hereby amended to read as follows:

634A.170 The Board may refuse to issue or may suspend or revoke any license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

27 1. Conviction of:

28 (a) A felony relating to the practice of Oriental medicine;

29 (b) Any offense involving moral turpitude;

30 (c) A violation of any state or federal law regulating the 31 possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance, as shown 32 by a certified copy of the record of the court; or

33 (d) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200,
34 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive;

2. The obtaining of or any attempt to obtain a license or
practice in the profession for money or any other thing of value, by
fraudulent misrepresentations;

38 3. Gross or repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced by 39 claims of malpractice settled against a practitioner;

40 4. Advertising by means of a knowingly false or deceptive 41 statement;

42 5. Advertising, practicing or attempting to practice under a 43 name other than one's own;

44 6. Habitual drunkenness or habitual addiction to the use of a 45 controlled substance;





7. Using any false, fraudulent or forged statement or document, or engaging in any fraudulent, deceitful, dishonest or immoral practice in connection with the licensing requirements of this

4 chapter;

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5 8. Sustaining a physical or mental disability which renders 6 further practice dangerous;

9. Engaging in any dishonorable, unethical or unprofessional
conduct which may deceive, defraud or harm the public, or which is
unbecoming a person licensed to practice under this chapter;

10 10. Using any false or fraudulent statement in connection with 11 the practice of Oriental medicine or any branch thereof;

12 11. Violating or attempting to violate, or assisting or abetting 13 the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this 14 chapter;

15 16 12. Being adjudicated incompetent or insane;

13. Advertising in an unethical or unprofessional manner;

17 14. Obtaining a fee or financial benefit for any person by the 18 use of fraudulent diagnosis, therapy or treatment;

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15. Willful disclosure of a privileged communication;

16. Failure of a licensee to designate the nature of his or her practice in the professional use of his or her name by the term doctor of Oriental medicine;

17. Willful violation of the law relating to the health, safety or
welfare of the public or of the regulations adopted by the State
Board of Health;

18. Administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled
substance, except for the prevention, alleviation or cure of disease or
for relief from suffering;

29 19. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 30 449.757;

20. Performing, assisting or advising in the injection of any
liquid silicone substance into the human body; and

33 [20.] 21. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS
34 449.0151, at any time during which:

35 (a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

(b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension orrevocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

38 → This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible
 39 for the operation of the facility.

40 Sec. 14. NRS 635.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 635.130 1. The Board, after notice and a hearing as required 42 by law, and upon any cause enumerated in subsection 2, may take 43 one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

44 (a) Deny an application for a license or refuse to renew a 45 license.





(b) Suspend or revoke a license. 1 2

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(c) Place a licensee on probation.

(d) Impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000.

The Board may take disciplinary action against a licensee for 4 2. 5 any of the following causes:

6 (a) The making of a false statement in any affidavit required of the applicant for application, examination or licensure pursuant to 7 8 the provisions of this chapter.

9 (b) Lending the use of the holder's name to an unlicensed 10 person.

(c) If the holder is a podiatric physician, permitting an 11 12 unlicensed person in his or her employ to practice as a podiatry 13 hygienist.

(d) Habitual indulgence in the use of alcohol or any controlled 14 15 substance which impairs the intellect and judgment to such an extent 16 as in the opinion of the Board incapacitates the holder in the performance of his or her professional duties. 17 18

(e) Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude.

(f) Conviction of violating any of the provisions of NRS 19 20 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 21 inclusive.

22 (g) Conduct which in the opinion of the Board disqualifies the 23 licensee to practice with safety to the public.

24 (h) The commission of fraud by or on behalf of the licensee 25 regarding his or her license or practice.

26 (i) Gross incompetency.

27 (j) Affliction of the licensee with any mental or physical 28 disorder which seriously impairs his or her competence as a 29 podiatric physician or podiatry hygienist.

30 (k) False representation by or on behalf of the licensee regarding 31 his or her practice.

(1) Unethical or unprofessional conduct. 32

33 (m) Failure to comply with the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 635.118. 34

35 (n) Willful or repeated violations of this chapter or regulations 36 adopted by the Board.

37 (o) Willful violation of the regulations adopted by the State 38 Board of Pharmacy.

39 (p) Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that 40 is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, 41 42 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

43 (1) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed 44 pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS:





1 (2) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 2 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 3 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 4 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

5 (3) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in 6 accordance with chapter 453A of NRS.

7 (q) Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, 8 at any time during which:

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(1) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

10 (2) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension 11 or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

12  $\rightarrow$  This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible 13 for the operation of the facility.

14 (r) Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 15 449.757.

**Sec. 15.** NRS 636.295 is hereby amended to read as follows:

636.295 The following acts, conduct, omissions, or mental or
physical conditions, or any of them, committed, engaged in,
omitted, or being suffered by a licensee, constitute sufficient cause
for disciplinary action:

Affliction of the licensee with any communicable disease
 likely to be communicated to other persons.

23 2. Commission by the licensee of a felony relating to the 24 practice of optometry or a gross misdemeanor involving moral 25 turpitude of which the licensee has been convicted and from which 26 he or she has been sentenced by a final judgment of a federal or 27 state court in this or any other state, the judgment not having been 28 reversed or vacated by a competent appellate court and the offense 29 not having been pardoned by executive authority.

30 3. Conviction of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 31 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive.

4. Commission of fraud by or on behalf of the licensee in
obtaining a license or a renewal thereof, or in practicing optometry
thereunder.

35 5. Habitual drunkenness or addiction to any controlled 36 substance.

6. Gross incompetency.

7. Affliction with any mental or physical disorder or
 disturbance seriously impairing his or her competency as an
 optometrist.

41 8. Making false or misleading representations, by or on behalf 42 of the licensee, with respect to optometric materials or services.

9. Practice by the licensee, or attempting or offering so to do,while in an intoxicated condition.





1 10. Perpetration of unethical or unprofessional conduct in the 2 practice of optometry.

11. Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled
substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that
is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

7 (a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to 8 chapter 639 of NRS;

9 (b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 10 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 11 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 12 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

(c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordancewith chapter 453A of NRS.

15 12. Any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any 16 regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

17 13. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 18 449.0151, at any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

20 (b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or 21 revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

22 → This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible
 23 for the operation of the facility.

24 14. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 25 449.757.

26 Sec. 16. NRS 637.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 27 637.150 1. Upon proof by substantial evidence that an applicant or holder of a license:
- 29 (a) Has been adjudicated insane;

30 (b) Habitually uses any controlled substance or intoxicant;

31 (c) Has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;

32 (d) Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of 33 NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 34 inclusive;

(e) Has advertised in any manner which would tend to deceive,defraud or mislead the public;

(f) Has presented to the Board any diploma, license or certificate
that has been signed or issued unlawfully or under fraudulent
representations, or obtains or has obtained a license to practice in
this State through fraud of any kind;

41 (g) Has been convicted of a violation of any federal or state law 42 relating to a controlled substance;

43 (h) Has, without proper verification, dispensed a lens, frame, 44 specially fabricated optical device or other ophthalmic device that



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1 does not satisfy the minimum standards established by the Board2 pursuant to NRS 637.073;

(i) Has violated any regulation of the Board;

(j) Has violated any provision of this chapter;

(k) Is incompetent;

6 (1) Is guilty of unethical or unprofessional conduct as 7 determined by the Board;

8 (m) Is guilty of repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced 9 by claims of malpractice settled against a practitioner;

10 (n) Has failed to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 11 or 449.757;

12 (*o*) Is guilty of a fraudulent or deceptive practice as determined 13 by the Board; or

14 **[(0)]** (*p*) Has operated a medical facility, as defined in NRS 15 449.0151, at any time during which:

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(1) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or

17 (2) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the 18 suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160,

19  $\rightarrow$  the Board may, in the case of an applicant, refuse to grant the 20 applicant a license, or may, in the case of a holder of a license, place 21 the holder on probation, reprimand the holder publicly, require the 22 holder to pay an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000, 23 suspend or revoke the holder's license, or take any combination of 24 these disciplinary actions.

25 2. The Board shall not privately reprimand a holder of a 26 license.

3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact andconclusions of law supporting that order are public records.

4. The provisions of paragraph  $\frac{(0)}{(p)}$  of subsection 1 apply to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the medical facility.

32 Sec. 17. NRS 639.2802 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.2802 *1*. In addition to any applicable requirements set
forth in NRS 439.900 to 439.940, inclusive, prescription price
information must be made available, upon request, by a pharmacist
or practitioner who dispenses drugs.

2. The failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 449.757 is grounds for suspension of and disciplinary action relating to any license issued pursuant to NRS 639.233.

40 Sec. 18. NRS 640.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

640.160
by law, and upon any ground enumerated in subsection 2, may take
one or more of the following actions:

44 (a) Refuse to issue a license or temporary license to any 45 applicant.





1 (b) Refuse to renew the license or temporary license of any 2 person. 3 (c) Suspend or revoke the license or temporary license of any 4 person. 5 (d) Place any person who has been issued a license or temporary 6 license on probation. 7 (e) Impose an administrative fine which does not exceed \$5,000 8 on any person who has been issued a license. 9 2. The Board may take action pursuant to subsection 1 if an applicant or person who has been licensed pursuant to this chapter: 10 (a) Is habitually drunk or is addicted to the use of a controlled 11 12 substance. 13 (b) Has been convicted of violating any state or federal law 14 relating to controlled substances. 15 (c) Is, in the judgment of the Board, guilty of immoral or 16 unprofessional conduct. 17 (d) Has been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude. 18 (e) Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 19 20 inclusive. 21 (f) Is guilty, in the judgment of the Board, of gross negligence in 22 his or her practice as a physical therapist which may be evidenced 23 by claims of malpractice settled against a practitioner. 24 (g) Has obtained or attempted to obtain a license by fraud or 25 material misrepresentation. 26 (h) Has been declared insane by a court of competent 27 jurisdiction and has not thereafter been lawfully declared sane. 28 (i) Has entered into any contract or arrangement which provides 29 for the payment of an unearned fee to any person following his or her referral of a patient. 30 (j) Has employed as a physical therapist any unlicensed physical 31 32 therapist or physical therapist whose license has been suspended. 33 (k) Has had a license to practice physical therapy suspended, revoked or in any way limited by another jurisdiction. 34 35 (1) Is determined to be professionally incompetent by the Board. 36 (m) Has violated any provision of this chapter or the Board's 37 regulations. 38 (n) Has operated a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, 39 at any time during which: 40 (1) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or 41 (2) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the 42 suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160. 43 This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible 44 for the operation of the facility.

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1 (o) Has failed to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 2 or 449.757.

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Sec. 19. NRS 641.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 641.230 The Board may suspend or revoke a person's license 5 as a psychologist, behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst or certificate as an autism behavior interventionist, place the person on 6 probation, require remediation for the person or take any other 7 8 action specified by regulation if the Board finds by substantial 9 evidence that the person has:

Been convicted of a felony relating to the practice of 10 1. psychology or the practice of applied behavior analysis. 11

12 Been convicted of any crime or offense that reflects the 2. 13 inability of the person to practice psychology or applied behavior 14 analysis with due regard for the health and safety of others.

3. Been convicted of violating any of the provisions of NRS 15 16 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 17 inclusive.

18 4. Engaged in gross malpractice or repeated malpractice or 19 gross negligence in the practice of psychology or the practice of 20 applied behavior analysis.

21 Aided or abetted the practice of psychology by a person not 5. 22 licensed by the Board.

6. Made any fraudulent or untrue statement to the Board.

7. Violated a regulation adopted by the Board.

25 8. Had a license to practice psychology or a license or 26 certificate to practice applied behavior analysis suspended or 27 revoked or has had any other disciplinary action taken against the 28 person by another state or territory of the United States, the District 29 of Columbia or a foreign country, if at least one of the grounds for 30 discipline is the same or substantially equivalent to any ground 31 contained in this chapter.

32 Failed to report to the Board within 30 days the revocation, 9. 33 suspension or surrender of, or any other disciplinary action taken against, a license or certificate to practice psychology or applied 34 35 behavior analysis issued to the person by another state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia or a foreign country. 36

37 Violated or attempted to violate, directly or indirectly, or 10. 38 assisted in or abetted the violation of or conspired to violate a 39 provision of this chapter.

40 Performed or attempted to perform any professional service 11. while impaired by alcohol, drugs or by a mental or physical illness, 41 42 disorder or disease. 43

12. Engaged in sexual activity with a patient or client.

44 13. Been convicted of abuse or fraud in connection with any 45 state or federal program which provides medical assistance.





1 14. Been convicted of submitting a false claim for payment to 2 the insurer of a patient or client.

3 15. Operated a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, at 4 any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or

6 (b) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the 7 suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

8 This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the facility. 9

10 16. Failed to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 11 449.757.

Sec. 20. NRS 652.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 652.220 A license may be denied, suspended or revoked if the laboratory, laboratory director or any technical employee of the 14 15 laboratory:

1. Violates any provision of this chapter;

2. Makes any misrepresentation in obtaining a license;

3. 18 Has been convicted of a felony relating to the position for which the applicant has applied or the licensee has been licensed 19 20 pursuant to this chapter;

4. Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of 21 22 NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 23 inclusive: 24

5. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct;

Fails to comply with the provisions of NRS 439B.400 or 25 6. 26 449.757:

27 7. Knowingly permits the use of the name of a licensed 28 laboratory or its director by an unlicensed laboratory; or

[7.] 8. Fails to meet the minimum standards prescribed by the 29 30 Board.



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