

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on Thursday, February 1, 1979, with Senator Keith Ashworth in the Chair.

PRESENT: Chairman Keith Ashworth
Vice-Chairman Joe Neal
Senator Rick Blakemore
Senator Clifton Young
Senator Wilbur Faiss
Senator Jim Kosinski

GUESTS: Reba Chappell, Chief, EMS Section, Nevada Health Division

Chairman Ashworth opened the meeting and stated the hearing on S.B. 68 would begin.

Senator Blakemore, who introduced S.B. 68, called on Ms. Reba Chappell, Chief of the EMS Section Nevada Health Division, to testify in behalf of the bill.

Ms. Chappell said that S.B. 68 was submitted to strengthen NRS 450.B1 and NRS 634.30. She stated that the changes for NRS 450.B1 would, "remove outdated requirements on the licensing requirements for volunteer ambulance attendants; would provide a penalty for misrepresentation of service available to the consumers, and would allow the Board of Health to establish minimum standards for ambulance vehicle configuration." Ms. Chappell said that the proposed change in NRS 634.30 would "provide a penalty for misrepresenting service available to the consumers by advanced life support providers."

Senator Blakemore asked Ms. Chappell to discuss the changes in the bill one at a time:

- (1) Line 4 of Page One -- Ms. Chappell said that the wording "which it determines are necessary in addition to the statutory requirements for licensing;" was added to replace the mandates on training required for volunteers initiated July 1, 1975, and July 1, 1978.
- (2) Line 9 of Page One -- Senator Neal asked what was meant by "interior configuration"? Ms. Chappell said that currently the Emergency Medical Section does not have approval of the interior design of an ambulance vehicle; and she read the following on one vehicle being used in a county whose name she would not disclose: "the glass used in the doors and the storage area is regular glass and can be shattered easily. Upon shattering, this glass would fall directly on the patient."

Light for the patient compartment consists of a single 12 volt lightbulb mounted on the storage area. There is no protective cover on the bulb. Also it is in a location where it may interfere with treatment, and this bulb could be easily broken and it would fall directly on the patient's face...."

Chairman Ashworth stated that the main concern is that the minimum standards set by the Board of Health will be "reasonable"; and Line 9 just allows the EMS section to adopt regulations to carry-out this purpose.

Senator Kosinski questioned the language on Line 9 which states "new" ambulances. He asked if this would prohibit the purchase of a used ambulance? Ms. Chappell said that this implies new to the Emergency Service, not a new vehicle. However, she agreed that this term could be misread and affect the Service's right for regulation. The Committee concurred that the removal of the word "new" would assist in the implementation of the provision; and they also supported Chairman Ashworth's suggestion of replacing the word "obtained" to "placed in service" (see final wording used in the Motion).

(3) Line 24 of Page Two -- Ms. Chappell stated this is just a change required by the bill drafters. She added that as of July 1, 1978, it is required that all commercial attendants shall be licensed Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's).

(4) Line 36 of Page Two -- Ms. Chappell said that when this statute was originated in 1973, there were no EMT's and these regulations were not necessary. She said these provisions will only apply to commercial EMT's or volunteer EMT's who have actually been certified by the State of Nevada. She stated that in Washoe County there has been one ambulance service which advertised as a paramedic service when it wasn't.

Senator Kosinski said that Chairman Ashworth indicated his confidence in the Emergency Medical Service Section that they would not adopt any regulations which weren't "reasonable"; however he was concerned about inadequate compensation for increased requirements. Ms. Chappell said that there are only commercial ambulance services in Carson City, Reno and Las Vegas; and all else are run on a volunteer basis. Senator Blakemore commented

that he also had had similar thoughts as those of Senator Kosinski when 81 hours of instruction were required. He said that he felt all of the volunteers would quit, however he stated that just the opposite occurred, and the smaller areas hold annual contests to compete in efficiency. Ms. Chappell said (using figures collected six-months ago) that there are 803 licensed ambulance attendants in Nevada, and of those, 672 are volunteers; and of those 672, 486 are EMT's.

Chairman Ashworth read Exhibit "A" into the record which states Clark County's support of S.B. 68.

Chairman Ashworth discussed with Senator Kosinski, S.B. 24; and stated that he had received telephone calls from an attorney in Las Vegas who said that he had people who wished to testify on the bill; and Mr. Del Frost, Administrator of the Division of Rehabilitation, who asked that the bill be held until he received information regarding Federal guidelines. Senator Kosinski said that he had no objection to recalling the bill, but he felt that Mr. Frost should be told to read the bill and he would understand that it has no application to the Rehabilitation Division, but relates only to the Division of Mental Hygiene.

S.B. 68 (Exhibit "B")

Senator Neal moved amend and "Do Pass" out of Committee on Senate Bill 68.

Seconded by Senator Faiss.

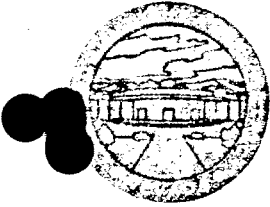
Chairman Ashworth stated the amendment to S.B. 68 as follows: Delete the word "new" on Line 9 of Page One; delete the word "obtained" on Line 10 of Page One, and replace it with "placed in service".

Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Ashworth adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Sheba L. Frost
Respectfully Submitted By:
Sheba L. Frost, Acting Secretary
for Roni Ronemus

Keith Ashworth
Approved By: Senator Keith Ashworth,
Chairman



CLARK COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 4428 • 625 SHADOW LANE • LAS VEGAS NEVADA 89106 • 702 385 1

January 31, 1979

Reba Chappell, Chief
EMS Section
Nevada Health Division
505 East King Street
Capitol Complex
Carson City, NV 89710

Reference: Senate Bill Number 68

Dear Mrs. Chappell:

We have reviewed Senate Bill Number 68 which is being considered by the Legislature and would like to express our support for these improvements to the Nevada EMS Program.

Sincerely,
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Karl Munninger
Karl Munninger
EMS Coordinator

KM:at .

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S. B. 68

SENATE BILL NO. 68—SENATORS BLAKEMORE,
JACOBSEN AND DODGE

JANUARY 22, 1979

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Strengthens standards for emergency medical services.
(BDR 40-226)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to emergency medical services; directing the state board of health to establish certain standards for ambulances and attendants; prohibiting misrepresentation by uncertified emergency medical technicians and ambulance services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly,
do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. NRS 450B.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 450B.130 The board shall adopt regulations establishing reasonable
3 minimum standards for:
4 1. Qualifications and training for attendants [;] *which it determines*
5 *are necessary in addition to the statutory requirements for licensing;*
6 2. Sanitation requirements for ambulances and air ambulances;
7 3. Medical and nonmedical equipment and supplies to be carried in
8 ambulances and air ambulances;
9 4. *Interior configuration, design and dimensions of new ambulances*
10 *obtained after July 1, 1979;*
11 5. Permits for operation of ambulance services and air ambulance
12 services; and
13 [5.] 6. Records to be maintained by all ambulance services and
14 air ambulance services.
15 SEC. 2. NRS 450B.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:
16 450B.160 1. The health division may issue licenses to attendants.
17 2. Each [such license shall] *license must be evidenced by a card*
18 *issued to the license holder.*
19 3. The health division shall charge no fee for a license.
20 4. Each [such license shall be] *license is valid for a period not to*
21 *exceed 3 years, and is renewable.*