ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 349-ASSEMBLYMEN OHRENSCHALL, CLABORN AND BUCKLEY

MARCH 17, 2003

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning older Nevadans. (BDR 38-973)

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

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EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to older persons; requiring training and education in geriatrics and gerontology as a condition for licensing certain health care professionals and for persons who work in long-term care facilities; removing the limitation on the number of hearings that the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum may hold; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Section 1. Chapter 427A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. A person licensed to provide health care must, as a condition of obtaining a license or renewing a license, receive training and education in geriatrics and gerontology. A person who is employed by a licensed facility for long-term care but who is not required to be licensed must receive such training and education as a condition of licensure of the facility.
- 2. The training and education required pursuant to this section must include, but is not limited to:
- (a) The skills and knowledge that the person needs to address aging issues; 12
 - (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.
- 3. The training and education required pursuant to this section must constitute at least 10 percent of the total curriculum for a person who is licensed to provide health care. If 50 percent or more of a person's practice involves older persons, the training and education must constitute at least 25 percent of his required hours of continuing training or education for renewal of his license.
- 4. The Administrator and the Director shall work in cooperation with:
- (a) The appropriate occupational licensing boards, for persons licensed to provide health care; and
- (b) The State Board of Health, for persons employed by licensed facilities for long-term care, to develop the training and education programs required pursuant to this section. Each board shall adopt the programs as a part of its requirements for licensure and the renewal of licenses of persons licensed to provide health care or of facilities for long-term care.
- 5. As used in this section, "person licensed to provide health care" means a person who is required to obtain a license pursuant to chapter 630, 631, 632, 633, 637B, 639, 640, 640A, 641, 641B or 654 of NRS.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 427A.380 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 427A.380 *1.* The Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum may, within the limits of legislative appropriations and any gifts, grants or donations received by the Forum:
- [1.] (a) During the period in which the Legislature is not in a regular session, hold three public hearings in three different areas of this state and may hold [an additional public hearing] additional public hearings in any area of this state. [to prepare the report authorized by NRS 427A.390.
 - 2. Comply]

- (b) During the period in which the Legislature is in a regular session, meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of the Forum.
- (c) Form committees, which may meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of the Forum.
- 2. The Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum and its committees shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.



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- Sec. 3. 1. This section and section 2 of this act become effective on July 1, 2003.
 2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2003, for the purpose of developing the training and educational programs required by that section and on July 1, 2004, for all other purposes. 3 4



