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A.B. 129

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 129—ASSEMBLYWOMEN MUNK;
BENITEZ-THOMPSON AND MONROE-MORENO

FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Requires certain first responders to receive certain training concerning persons with developmental disabilities. (BDR 40-157)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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 emergency response; requiring certain first responders to receive training concerning identifying and interacting with persons with developmental disabilities; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law provides for the licensure of ambulance attendants and firefighters
2 and the certification of emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency
3 medical technicians, paramedics and peace officers. (NRS 289.550, 450B.160,
4 450B.180) **Sections 2, 4 and 11** of this bill require each of those persons to receive
5 2 hours of training concerning persons with developmental disabilities before initial
6 licensure or certification, as applicable, and every 2 years thereafter. **Sections 1, 3,**
7 **5-10 and 12** of this bill make conforming changes.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 450B.064 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:
3 450B.064 "Emergency medical services registered nurse"
4 means a registered nurse who is issued a certificate to serve as an
5 attendant by the State Board of Nursing pursuant to subsection ~~8~~ **9**
6 of NRS 450B.160.



1 **Sec. 2.** NRS 450B.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 450B.160 1. The health authority may issue licenses to
3 attendants and to firefighters employed by or serving as volunteers
4 with a fire-fighting agency.

5 2. Each license must be evidenced by a card issued to the
6 holder of the license, is valid for a period not to exceed 2 years and
7 is renewable.

8 3. An applicant for a license must file with the health authority:

9 (a) A current, valid certificate evidencing the applicant's
10 successful completion of a program of training as an emergency
11 medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or
12 paramedic, if the applicant is applying for a license as an attendant,
13 or, if a volunteer attendant, at a level of skill determined by the
14 board.

15 (b) A current valid certificate evidencing the applicant's
16 successful completion of a program of training as an emergency
17 medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or
18 paramedic, if the applicant is applying for a license as a firefighter
19 with a fire-fighting agency.

20 (c) A signed statement showing:

21 (1) The name and address of the applicant;

22 (2) The name and address of the employer of the applicant;

23 and

24 (3) A description of the applicant's duties.

25 (d) *Proof that the applicant has completed the training*
26 *required by subsection 4.*

27 (e) Such other certificates for training and such other items as
28 the board may specify.

29 4. *In addition to the training required by subsection 3, each*
30 *applicant for a license must complete at least 2 hours of in-person*
31 *training concerning identifying and interacting with persons with*
32 *developmental disabilities. Each licensee shall complete such*
33 *training during each renewal period after initial licensure.*

34 5. The board shall adopt such regulations as it determines are
35 necessary for the issuance, suspension, revocation and renewal of
36 licenses.

37 ~~5.~~ 6. Each operator of an ambulance or air ambulance and
38 each fire-fighting agency shall annually file with the health authority
39 a complete list of the licensed persons in its service.

40 ~~6.~~ 7. Licensed physicians, registered nurses and licensed
41 physician assistants may serve as attendants without being licensed
42 under the provisions of this section. A registered nurse who
43 performs emergency care in an ambulance or air ambulance shall
44 perform the care in accordance with the regulations of the State
45 Board of Nursing. A licensed physician assistant who performs



1 emergency care in an ambulance or air ambulance shall perform the
2 care in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Medical
3 Examiners.

4 ~~7.7~~ 8. Each licensed physician, registered nurse and licensed
5 physician assistant who serves as an attendant must have current
6 certification of completion of training in:

7 (a) Advanced life-support procedures for patients who require
8 cardiac care;

9 (b) Life-support procedures for pediatric patients who require
10 cardiac care; and

11 (c) Life-support procedures for patients with trauma that are
12 administered before the arrival of those patients at a hospital.

13 ➤ The certification must be issued by the Board of Medical
14 Examiners for a physician or licensed physician assistant or by the
15 State Board of Nursing for a registered nurse.

16 ~~8.8~~ 9. The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board
17 of Nursing shall issue a certificate pursuant to subsection ~~7.7~~ 8 if the
18 licensed physician, licensed physician assistant or registered nurse
19 *completes the training described in subsection 10 and* attends:

20 (a) A course offered by a national organization which is
21 nationally recognized for issuing such certification;

22 (b) Training conducted by the operator of an ambulance or air
23 ambulance; or

24 (c) Any other course or training,

25 ➤ approved by the Board of Medical Examiners or the State Board
26 of Nursing, whichever is issuing the certification.

27 *10. In addition to the requirements of subsections 8 and 9, a*
28 *licensed physician, registered nurse or licensed physician assistant*
29 *shall, as a condition of certification pursuant to subsection 8,*
30 *complete at least 2 hours of in-person training concerning*
31 *identifying and interacting with persons with developmental*
32 *disabilities. Such training must be completed every 2 years after*
33 *initial certification. Training completed pursuant to this*
34 *subsection also satisfies the requirement for such training*
35 *prescribed by NRS 450B.180 or section 11 of this act, if applicable.*

36 *11. As used in this section, "developmental disability" has the*
37 *meaning ascribed to it in NRS 435.007.*

38 **Sec. 3.** NRS 450B.171 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 450B.171 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter,
40 unlicensed relatives of a sick or injured patient and other persons
41 may ride in an ambulance if there are two attendants in the
42 ambulance, each of whom is licensed pursuant to this chapter or
43 exempt from licensing pursuant to subsection ~~6.6~~ 7 of
44 NRS 450B.160.



1 **Sec. 4.** NRS 450B.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 450B.180 1. Any person desiring certification as an
3 emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical
4 technician or paramedic must apply to the health authority using
5 forms prescribed by the health authority.

6 2. The health authority, pursuant to regulations and procedures
7 adopted by the board, shall make a determination of the applicant's
8 qualifications to be certified as an emergency medical technician,
9 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic and shall
10 issue the appropriate certificate to each qualified applicant.

11 3. A certificate is valid for a period not exceeding 2 years and
12 may be renewed if the holder of the certificate complies with the
13 provisions of this chapter and meets the qualifications set forth in
14 the regulations and standards established by the board pursuant to
15 this chapter. The regulations and standards established by the board
16 must provide for the completion of ~~[(a)]~~:

17 ~~[(a)]~~ (a) A course of instruction, within 2 years after initial
18 ~~[(licensure,)] certification~~, relating to the medical consequences of an
19 act of terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass
20 destruction. The course must provide at least 4 hours of instruction
21 that includes instruction in the following subjects:

22 ~~[(a)]~~ (1) An overview of acts of terrorism and weapons of mass
23 destruction;

24 ~~[(b)]~~ (2) Personal protective equipment required for acts of
25 terrorism;

26 ~~[(c)]~~ (3) Common symptoms and methods of treatment
27 associated with exposure to, or injuries caused by, chemical,
28 biological, radioactive and nuclear agents;

29 ~~[(d)]~~ (4) Syndromic surveillance and reporting procedures for
30 acts of terrorism that involve biological agents; and

31 ~~[(e)]~~ (5) An overview of the information available on, and the
32 use of, the Health Alert Network.

33 ↪ The board may thereafter determine whether to establish
34 regulations and standards requiring additional courses of instruction
35 relating to the medical consequences of an act of terrorism that
36 involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

37 ***(b) At least 2 hours of in-person training, before initial***
38 ***certification and every 2 years thereafter, concerning identifying***
39 ***and interacting with persons with developmental disabilities.***
40 ***Training completed pursuant to this paragraph also satisfies the***
41 ***requirement for such training prescribed by NRS 450B.160 or***
42 ***section 11 of this act, if applicable.***

43 4. The health authority may suspend or revoke a certificate if it
44 finds that the holder of the certificate no longer meets the prescribed
45 qualifications. Unless the certificate is suspended by the district



1 court pursuant to NRS 425.540, the holder of the certificate may
2 appeal the suspension or revocation of his or her certificate pursuant
3 to regulations adopted by the board.

4 5. The board shall determine the procedures and techniques
5 which may be performed by an emergency medical technician,
6 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic.

7 6. A certificate issued pursuant to this section is valid
8 throughout the State, whether issued by the Division or a district
9 board of health.

10 7. The Division shall maintain a central registry of all
11 certificates issued pursuant to this section, whether issued by the
12 Division or a district board of health.

13 8. The board shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to
14 carry out the provisions of this section.

15 9. As used in this section:

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

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

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

22 (d) *"Developmental disability" has the meaning ascribed to it*
23 *in NRS 435.007.*

24 (e) "Radioactive agent" has the meaning ascribed to it in
25 NRS 202.4437.

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

28 **Sec. 5.** NRS 450B.1905 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 450B.1905 1. A program of training for certification as an
30 emergency medical technician must be:

31 (a) Supervised by a physician and approved by the health
32 authority; or

33 (b) Presented by a national organization which is nationally
34 recognized for providing such training and approved by the board.

35 2. A program of training for certification as an emergency
36 medical technician must follow the curriculum or educational
37 standards prepared by the United States Department of
38 Transportation as a national standard for emergency medical
39 technicians.

40 3. The board may adopt regulations which prescribe other
41 requirements of training for certification as an emergency medical
42 technician.

43 4. An owner of an ambulance shall not offer emergency
44 medical care to a patient in urgent need of medical care or
45 observation unless the attendant has successfully completed a



1 program of training for certification as an emergency medical
2 technician or is exempt, pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS
3 450B.160, from the requirement to obtain that training.

4 5. The board may by regulation prescribe additional
5 requirements for receiving and maintaining certification as an
6 emergency medical technician. The curriculum or educational
7 standards for training must be:

8 (a) At the level of advanced first aid; or

9 (b) At least equivalent to any curriculum or educational
10 standards prepared by the Department of Transportation as a
11 national standard for emergency medical technicians.

12 **Sec. 6.** NRS 450B.191 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 450B.191 1. A program of training for certification as an
14 advanced emergency medical technician must be supervised by a
15 licensed physician and approved by the health authority.

16 2. A program of training for certification as an advanced
17 emergency medical technician must include an approved curriculum
18 in intravenous therapy and the management of a passage for air to
19 the lungs. Only a certified emergency medical technician with
20 experience as established by the board is eligible for this training.

21 3. In order to maintain certification, each advanced emergency
22 medical technician must annually:

23 (a) Comply with the requirements established by the board for
24 continuing medical education; and

25 (b) Demonstrate his or her skills as required by regulation of the
26 board.

27 4. The board may by regulation prescribe the curriculum and
28 other requirements for training and maintaining certification as an
29 advanced emergency medical technician. The curriculum must be at
30 least equivalent to any curriculum or educational standards prepared
31 by the United States Department of Transportation as a national
32 standard for advanced emergency medical technicians.

33 5. A person shall not represent himself or herself to be an
34 advanced emergency medical technician unless the person has on
35 file with the health authority a currently valid certificate
36 demonstrating successful completion of the program of training
37 required by this section.

38 6. Except as authorized by subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160,
39 an attendant or firefighter shall not perform, and the owner,
40 operator, director or chief officer of an ambulance or a fire-fighting
41 agency shall not offer, emergency care as an advanced emergency
42 medical technician without fulfilling the requirements established by
43 the board.



1 **Sec. 7.** NRS 450B.195 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 450B.195 1. Only a certified emergency medical technician
3 with experience as established by the board is eligible for training as
4 a paramedic.

5 2. A program of training for certification as a paramedic must
6 be supervised by a licensed physician and approved by the health
7 authority.

8 3. To maintain certification, each paramedic must annually:

9 (a) Comply with the requirements established by the board for
10 continuing medical education; and

11 (b) Demonstrate his or her skills as required by regulation of the
12 board.

13 4. The board may by regulation prescribe the curriculum and
14 other requirements for training and maintaining certification as a
15 paramedic. The curriculum must be at least equivalent to any
16 curriculum or educational standards prepared by the United States
17 Department of Transportation as a national standard for paramedics.

18 5. A person shall not represent himself or herself to be a
19 paramedic unless the person has on file with the health authority a
20 currently valid certificate evidencing the person's successful
21 completion of the program of training required by this section.

22 6. Except as authorized by subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160,
23 an attendant or firefighter shall not perform, and the owner,
24 operator, director or chief officer of an ambulance or a fire-fighting
25 agency shall not offer, emergency care as a paramedic without
26 fulfilling the requirements established by the board.

27 **Sec. 8.** NRS 450B.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 450B.260 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
29 public or private owner of an ambulance or air ambulance or a fire-
30 fighting agency which owns a vehicle used in providing medical
31 care to sick or injured persons at the scene of an emergency or while
32 transporting those persons to a medical facility shall not permit its
33 operation and use by any person not licensed under this chapter.

34 2. An ambulance carrying a sick or injured patient must be
35 occupied by a driver and an attendant, each of whom is licensed as
36 an attendant pursuant to this chapter or exempt from licensing
37 pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160, except as otherwise
38 provided in subsection 5 or in geographic areas which may be
39 designated by the board and for which the board may prescribe
40 lesser qualifications.

41 3. An air ambulance carrying a sick or injured patient must be
42 occupied by a licensed attendant, or a person exempt from licensing
43 pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160, in addition to the
44 pilot of the aircraft.



1 4. The pilot of an air ambulance is not required to have a
2 license under this chapter.

3 5. A person who operates or uses a vehicle owned by a fire-
4 fighting agency is not required to be licensed under this chapter,
5 except that such a vehicle may not be used to provide the level of
6 medical care provided by an advanced emergency medical
7 technician or paramedic to sick or injured persons:

8 (a) At the scene of an emergency unless at least one person in
9 the vehicle is licensed to provide the care; or

10 (b) While transporting those persons to a medical facility unless
11 at least two persons in the vehicle are licensed to provide the care.

12 6. Nothing in this section precludes the operation of an aircraft
13 in this State in a manner other than as an air ambulance.

14 **Sec. 9.** NRS 450B.655 is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 450B.655 “Dedicated advanced life support ambulance” means
16 an ambulance equipped to provide advanced life support that:

17 1. Is capable of transporting a patient from a special event to a
18 hospital but, upon delivering the patient, immediately returns to the
19 site of the special event; and

20 2. Is staffed by:

21 (a) At least one licensed attendant who is an emergency medical
22 technician and one licensed attendant who is a paramedic; or

23 (b) At least two other attendants, each with an equivalent or a
24 higher level of skill than the levels described in paragraph (a) and
25 each of whom is licensed pursuant to this chapter or exempt from
26 licensure pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160.

27 **Sec. 10.** NRS 450B.660 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 450B.660 “First-aid station” means a fixed location at the site
29 of a special event that is staffed by:

30 1. At least one licensed attendant who is an emergency medical
31 technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic;
32 or

33 2. A person with a higher level of skill than the levels
34 described in subsection 1 who is capable of providing emergency
35 medical care within his or her scope of practice and is licensed
36 pursuant to this chapter or exempt from licensure pursuant to
37 subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160.

38 **Sec. 11.** Chapter 289 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
39 thereto a new section to read as follows:

40 *1. The Peace Officers’ Standards and Training Commission*
41 *shall require, as a condition of the certification of each peace*
42 *officer, the completion of at least 2 hours of training concerning*
43 *identifying and interacting with persons with developmental*
44 *disabilities. Such training must be completed every 2 years after*
45 *initial certification.*



1 2. *Training completed pursuant to this section also satisfies*
2 *the requirement for such training prescribed by NRS 450B.160 or*
3 *450B.180, if applicable.*

4 3. *As used in this section, "developmental disability" has the*
5 *meaning ascribed to it in NRS 435.007.*

6 **Sec. 12.** NRS 289.450 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 289.450 As used in NRS 289.450 to 289.650, inclusive, *and*
8 *section 11 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the
9 words and terms defined in NRS 289.460 to 289.490, inclusive,
10 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

