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FIRST REPRINT

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 applicant for such licensure  
5 or certification to complete training concerning persons with developmental  
6 disabilities before initial licensure or certification, as applicable. **Sections 1, 3, 5-10**  
7 **and 12** of this bill make conforming changes. **Section 13** of this bill requires a person  
8 who, on October 1, 2019, is licensed as an ambulance attendant or firefighter or  
9 certified as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical  
10 technician, paramedic or peace officer to submit proof on or before October 1, 2020,  
11 that he or she has completed the additional training concerning persons with  
12 developmental disabilities required by **section 2, 4 or 11**.

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



1 attendant by the State Board of Nursing pursuant to subsection ~~5~~ 9  
2 of NRS 450B.160.

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 (c) A signed statement showing:

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

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

24 and

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

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

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

30 4. *In addition to the training required by subsection 3, each*  
31 *applicant for a license must complete training concerning*  
32 *identifying and interacting with persons with developmental*  
33 *disabilities.*

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 performs  
43 emergency care in an ambulance or air ambulance shall perform the  
44 care in accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Nursing.  
45 A licensed physician assistant who performs emergency care in an



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

3 ~~7.7~~ 8. Each licensed physician, registered nurse and licensed  
4 physician assistant who serves as an attendant must have current  
5 certification of completion of training in:

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

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

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

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

15 ~~8.7~~ 9. The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of  
16 Nursing shall issue a certificate pursuant to subsection ~~7.7~~ 8 if the  
17 licensed physician, licensed physician assistant or registered nurse  
18 attends:

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

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

23 (c) Any other course or training,  
24 ➔ approved by the Board of Medical Examiners or the State Board  
25 of Nursing, whichever is issuing the certification.

26 **10. As used in this section, "developmental disability" has the**  
27 **meaning ascribed to it in NRS 435.007.**

28 **Sec. 3.** NRS 450B.171 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
29 450B.171 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter,  
30 unlicensed relatives of a sick or injured patient and other persons may  
31 ride in an ambulance if there are two attendants in the ambulance,  
32 each of whom is licensed pursuant to this chapter or exempt from  
33 licensing pursuant to subsection ~~6.7~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160.

34 **Sec. 4.** NRS 450B.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
35 450B.180 1. Any person desiring certification as an  
36 emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical  
37 technician or paramedic must apply to the health authority using  
38 forms prescribed by the health authority.

39 2. The health authority, pursuant to regulations and procedures  
40 adopted by the board, shall make a determination of the applicant's  
41 qualifications to be certified as an emergency medical technician,  
42 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic and shall issue  
43 the appropriate certificate to each qualified applicant.

44 3. A certificate is valid for a period not exceeding 2 years and  
45 may be renewed if the holder of the certificate complies with the



1 provisions of this chapter and meets the qualifications set forth in the  
2 regulations and standards established by the board pursuant to this  
3 chapter. The regulations and standards established by the board must  
4 provide for the completion of ~~{a}~~:

5 ~~(a)~~ *(a) A course of instruction, within 2 years after initial ~~{license,}~~*  
6 *certification*, relating to the medical consequences of an act of  
7 terrorism that involves the use of a weapon of mass destruction. The  
8 course must provide at least 4 hours of instruction that includes  
9 instruction in the following subjects:

10 ~~{a}~~ *(1)* An overview of acts of terrorism and weapons of mass  
11 destruction;

12 ~~{b}~~ *(2)* Personal protective equipment required for acts of  
13 terrorism;

14 ~~{c}~~ *(3)* Common symptoms and methods of treatment  
15 associated with exposure to, or injuries caused by, chemical,  
16 biological, radioactive and nuclear agents;

17 ~~{d}~~ *(4)* Syndromic surveillance and reporting procedures for  
18 acts of terrorism that involve biological agents; and

19 ~~{e}~~ *(5)* An overview of the information available on, and the use  
20 of, the Health Alert Network.

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

25 *(b) Training before initial certification concerning identifying*  
26 *and interacting with persons with developmental disabilities.*  
27 *Training completed pursuant to this paragraph also satisfies the*  
28 *requirement for such training prescribed by NRS 450B.160 or*  
29 *section 11 of this act, if applicable.*

30 4. The health authority may suspend or revoke a certificate if it  
31 finds that the holder of the certificate no longer meets the prescribed  
32 qualifications. Unless the certificate is suspended by the district court  
33 pursuant to NRS 425.540, the holder of the certificate may appeal the  
34 suspension or revocation of his or her certificate pursuant to  
35 regulations adopted by the board.

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

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

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

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



1 9. As used in this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 450B.1905 1. A program of training for certification as an  
16 emergency medical technician must be:

17 (a) Supervised by a physician and approved by the health  
18 authority; or

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

21 2. A program of training for certification as an emergency  
22 medical technician must follow the curriculum or educational  
23 standards prepared by the United States Department of  
24 Transportation as a national standard for emergency medical  
25 technicians.

26 3. The board may adopt regulations which prescribe other  
27 requirements of training for certification as an emergency medical  
28 technician.

29 4. An owner of an ambulance shall not offer emergency medical  
30 care to a patient in urgent need of medical care or observation unless  
31 the attendant has successfully completed a program of training for  
32 certification as an emergency medical technician or is exempt,  
33 pursuant to subsection ~~(6)~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160, from the requirement  
34 to obtain that training.

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

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

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



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

2       450B.191 1. A program of training for certification as an  
3 advanced emergency medical technician must be supervised by a  
4 licensed physician and approved by the health authority.

5       2. A program of training for certification as an advanced  
6 emergency medical technician must include an approved curriculum  
7 in intravenous therapy and the management of a passage for air to the  
8 lungs. Only a certified emergency medical technician with experience  
9 as established by the board is eligible for this training.

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

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

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

16       4. The board may by regulation prescribe the curriculum and  
17 other requirements for training and maintaining certification as an  
18 advanced emergency medical technician. The curriculum must be at  
19 least equivalent to any curriculum or educational standards prepared  
20 by the United States Department of Transportation as a national  
21 standard for advanced emergency medical technicians.

22       5. A person shall not represent himself or herself to be an  
23 advanced emergency medical technician unless the person has on file  
24 with the health authority a currently valid certificate demonstrating  
25 successful completion of the program of training required by this  
26 section.

27       6. Except as authorized by subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS 450B.160,  
28 an attendant or firefighter shall not perform, and the owner, operator,  
29 director or chief officer of an ambulance or a fire-fighting agency  
30 shall not offer, emergency care as an advanced emergency medical  
31 technician without fulfilling the requirements established by the  
32 board.

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

34       450B.195 1. Only a certified emergency medical technician  
35 with experience as established by the board is eligible for training as  
36 a paramedic.

37       2. A program of training for certification as a paramedic must be  
38 supervised by a licensed physician and approved by the health  
39 authority.

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

16 450B.260 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the  
17 public or private owner of an ambulance or air ambulance or a fire-  
18 fighting agency which owns a vehicle used in providing medical care  
19 to sick or injured persons at the scene of an emergency or while  
20 transporting those persons to a medical facility shall not permit its  
21 operation and use by any person not licensed under this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

2       450B.655 “Dedicated advanced life support ambulance” means  
3 an ambulance equipped to provide advanced life support that:

4       1. Is capable of transporting a patient from a special event to a  
5 hospital but, upon delivering the patient, immediately returns to the  
6 site of the special event; and

7       2. Is staffed by:

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

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

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

15       450B.660 “First-aid station” means a fixed location at the site of  
16 a special event that is staffed by:

17       1. At least one licensed attendant who is an emergency medical  
18 technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic; or

19       2. A person with a higher level of skill than the levels described  
20 in subsection 1 who is capable of providing emergency medical care  
21 within his or her scope of practice and is licensed pursuant to this  
22 chapter or exempt from licensure pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 of NRS  
23 450B.160.

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

26       1. *The Peace Officers’ Standards and Training Commission*  
27 *shall require, as a condition of the certification of each peace*  
28 *officer, the completion of training concerning identifying and*  
29 *interacting with persons with developmental disabilities.*

30       2. *Training completed pursuant to this section also satisfies the*  
31 *requirement for such training prescribed by NRS 450B.160 or*  
32 *450B.180, if applicable.*

33       3. *As used in this section, “developmental disability” has the*  
34 *meaning ascribed to it in NRS 435.007.*

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

36       289.450 As used in NRS 289.450 to 289.650, inclusive, *and*  
37 *section 11 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words  
38 and terms defined in NRS 289.460 to 289.490, inclusive, have the  
39 meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

40       **Sec. 13.** A person who, on October 1, 2019, is:

41       1. Licensed as an attendant or firefighter pursuant to NRS  
42 450B.160;

43       2. Certified as an emergency medical technician, advanced  
44 emergency medical technician or paramedic pursuant to NRS  
45 450B.180; or





1       3. Certified as a peace officer pursuant to chapter 289 of NRS,  
2       ↳ must submit on or before October 1, 2020, proof that he or she has  
3       completed the training required, as applicable, by subsection 4 of  
4       NRS 450B.160, as amended by section 2 of this act, paragraph (b) of  
5       subsection 3 of NRS 450B.180, as amended by section 4 of this act,  
6       or section 11 of this act.

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