

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 344—ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS

MARCH 22, 2021

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Authorizes the establishment of a program to facilitate transition of the care of older persons and vulnerable persons. (BDR 38-743)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 public welfare; authorizing the establishment of a program to facilitate the transition of older persons and vulnerable persons being discharged from a hospital; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires the Aging and Disability Services Division of the
2 Department of Health and Human Services to administer certain programs to serve
3 elderly persons and persons with disabilities. (NRS 427A.040) This bill authorizes
4 the Division to establish a program to facilitate the transition of older persons and
5 vulnerable persons from a hospital to their places of residence. This bill requires the
6 program to: (1) provide for collaboration between hospital staff responsible for a
7 discharge and the older or vulnerable person being discharged and his or her
8 caregivers; and (2) facilitate the coordination of health care and social services for
9 an older or vulnerable person.

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

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

3 *1. To the extent that money is available for this purpose, the*
4 *Division may establish by regulation a program to facilitate the*
5 *transition of older persons and vulnerable persons from a hospital*
6 *to their places of residence. The program must:*

7 *(a) Provide for collaboration between:*



1 (1) *Hospital staff who are responsible for discharging an*
2 *older person or vulnerable person; and*

3 (2) *The older person or vulnerable person and any*
4 *caregivers or other persons assisting the older person or*
5 *vulnerable person; and*

6 (b) *Facilitate the coordination of health care and social*
7 *services to support the older person or vulnerable person and any*
8 *caregivers or other persons assisting the older person or*
9 *vulnerable person.*

10 2. *The Division may:*

11 (a) *Limit the program established pursuant to this section to*
12 *particular groups of older persons or vulnerable persons, within*
13 *the limits of available funding;*

14 (b) *Accept gifts, grants and donations for the purpose of*
15 *establishing and operating the program; and*

16 (c) *Use other options available to fund the program, including,*
17 *without limitation, billing third parties for the services provided by*
18 *the program.*

19 3. *As used in this section:*

20 (a) *“Older person” means a person who is 60 years of age or*
21 *older.*

22 (b) *“Third party” means:*

23 (1) *An insurer, as defined in NRS 679B.540;*

24 (2) *A health benefit plan, as defined in NRS 687B.470, for*
25 *employees which provides coverage for services and care at a*
26 *hospital;*

27 (3) *A participating public agency, as defined in NRS*
28 *287.04052, and any other local governmental agency of the State*
29 *of Nevada which provides a system of health insurance for the*
30 *benefit of its officers and employees, and the dependents of*
31 *officers and employees, pursuant to chapter 287 of NRS; or*

32 (4) *Any other insurer or organization providing health*
33 *coverage or benefits in accordance with state or federal law.*

34 ↳ *The term does not include an insurer that provides coverage*
35 *under a policy of casualty or property insurance.*

36 (c) *“Vulnerable person” means a person 18 years of age or*
37 *older who:*

38 (1) *Suffers from a condition of physical or mental*
39 *incapacitation because of a developmental disability, organic*
40 *brain damage or mental illness; or*

41 (2) *Has one or more physical or mental limitations that*
42 *restrict the ability of the person to perform the normal activities of*
43 *daily living.*

44 **Sec. 2.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
45 approval.



- 1 2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective:
2 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
3 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
4 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
5 (b) On October 1, 2021, for all other purposes.

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