

SENATE BILL NO. 146—SENATORS LANGE,
SPEARMAN; AND DONATE

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to health care.
(BDR 40-462)

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

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; revising provisions governing the regulation of hospitals; prohibiting a health carrier from denying certain providers of health care from entering into a contract to join the network of the health carrier under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires the State Board of Health to adopt regulations
2 establishing licensing standards for hospitals. (NRS 449.0302) Existing regulations
3 require a doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine to perform a physical
4 examination and complete a medical history of a patient seeking admission to a
5 hospital not more than 7 days before or more than 48 hours after the patient is
6 admitted to the hospital. (NAC 449.358) **Section 1** of this bill requires those
7 regulations to authorize a certified nurse-midwife to perform such a physical
8 examination or obtain such a medical history before or after a patient is admitted to
9 a hospital for the purpose of giving birth.

10 Existing law requires a health carrier to comply with certain provisions
11 governing the network plans that the health carrier offers or issues. (NRS
12 687B.600-687B.850) **Section 4** of this bill prohibits a health carrier from denying a
13 request from a provider of health care to enter into a provider network contract to
14 join the network established by the health carrier if the provider of health care: (1)
15 meets the terms and conditions for participation in the network plan of the health
16 carrier; (2) is employed by or has an open offer of employment from a school of
17 medicine or school of osteopathic medicine in this State; and (3) requests to
18 become a participating provider of health care in the network of the health carrier.
19 **Sections 6 and 7** of this bill make conforming changes to indicate the proper
20 placement of **section 4** in the Nevada Revised Statutes. **Sections 2 and 3** of this bill



21 require the State or a local government to comply with **section 4** if it offers a health
22 insurance policy to its officers and employees.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 449.0302 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 449.0302 1. The Board shall adopt:

4 (a) Licensing standards for each class of medical facility or
5 facility for the dependent covered by NRS 449.029 to 449.2428,
6 inclusive, and for programs of hospice care.

7 (b) Regulations governing the licensing of such facilities and
8 programs.

9 (c) Regulations governing the procedure and standards for
10 granting an extension of the time for which a natural person may
11 provide certain care in his or her home without being considered a
12 residential facility for groups pursuant to NRS 449.017. The
13 regulations must require that such grants are effective only if made
14 in writing.

15 (d) Regulations establishing a procedure for the indemnification
16 by the Division, from the amount of any surety bond or other
17 obligation filed or deposited by a facility for refractive surgery
18 pursuant to NRS 449.068 or 449.069, of a patient of the facility who
19 has sustained any damages as a result of the bankruptcy of or any
20 breach of contract by the facility.

21 (e) Regulations that prescribe the specific types of
22 discrimination prohibited by NRS 449.101.

23 (f) Regulations requiring a hospital or independent center for
24 emergency medical care to provide training to each employee who
25 provides care to victims of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault
26 concerning appropriate care for such persons, including, without
27 limitation, training concerning the requirements of NRS 449.1885.

28 (g) Any other regulations as it deems necessary or convenient to
29 carry out the provisions of NRS 449.029 to 449.2428, inclusive.

30 2. The Board shall adopt separate regulations governing the
31 licensing and operation of:

32 (a) Facilities for the care of adults during the day; and

33 (b) Residential facilities for groups,

34 ↳ which provide care to persons with Alzheimer's disease or other
35 severe dementia, as described in paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of
36 NRS 449.1845.

37 3. The Board shall adopt separate regulations for:

38 (a) The licensure of rural hospitals which take into consideration
39 the unique problems of operating such a facility in a rural area.



1 (b) The licensure of facilities for refractive surgery which take
2 into consideration the unique factors of operating such a facility.

3 (c) The licensure of mobile units which take into consideration
4 the unique factors of operating a facility that is not in a fixed
5 location.

6 4. The Board shall require that the practices and policies of
7 each medical facility or facility for the dependent provide
8 adequately for the protection of the health, safety and physical,
9 moral and mental well-being of each person accommodated in the
10 facility.

11 5. In addition to the training requirements prescribed pursuant
12 to NRS 449.093, the Board shall establish minimum qualifications
13 for administrators and employees of residential facilities for groups.
14 In establishing the qualifications, the Board shall consider the
15 related standards set by nationally recognized organizations which
16 accredit such facilities.

17 6. The Board shall adopt separate regulations regarding the
18 assistance which may be given pursuant to NRS 453.375 and
19 454.213 to an ultimate user of controlled substances or dangerous
20 drugs by employees of residential facilities for groups. The
21 regulations must require at least the following conditions before
22 such assistance may be given:

23 (a) The ultimate user's physical and mental condition is stable
24 and is following a predictable course.

25 (b) The amount of the medication prescribed is at a maintenance
26 level and does not require a daily assessment.

27 (c) A written plan of care by a physician or registered nurse has
28 been established that:

29 (1) Addresses possession and assistance in the administration
30 of the medication; and

31 (2) Includes a plan, which has been prepared under the
32 supervision of a registered nurse or licensed pharmacist, for
33 emergency intervention if an adverse condition results.

34 (d) Except as otherwise authorized by the regulations adopted
35 pursuant to NRS 449.0304, the prescribed medication is not
36 administered by injection or intravenously.

37 (e) The employee has successfully completed training and
38 examination approved by the Division regarding the authorized
39 manner of assistance.

40 7. The Board shall adopt separate regulations governing the
41 licensing and operation of residential facilities for groups which
42 provide assisted living services. The Board shall not allow the
43 licensing of a facility as a residential facility for groups which
44 provides assisted living services and a residential facility for groups
45 shall not claim that it provides "assisted living services" unless:



1 (a) Before authorizing a person to move into the facility, the
2 facility makes a full written disclosure to the person regarding what
3 services of personalized care will be available to the person and the
4 amount that will be charged for those services throughout the
5 resident's stay at the facility.

6 (b) The residents of the facility reside in their own living units
7 which:

8 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 8, contain
9 toilet facilities;

10 (2) Contain a sleeping area or bedroom; and

11 (3) Are shared with another occupant only upon consent of
12 both occupants.

13 (c) The facility provides personalized care to the residents of the
14 facility and the general approach to operating the facility
15 incorporates these core principles:

16 (1) The facility is designed to create a residential
17 environment that actively supports and promotes each resident's
18 quality of life and right to privacy;

19 (2) The facility is committed to offering high-quality
20 supportive services that are developed by the facility in
21 collaboration with the resident to meet the resident's individual
22 needs;

23 (3) The facility provides a variety of creative and innovative
24 services that emphasize the particular needs of each individual
25 resident and the resident's personal choice of lifestyle;

26 (4) The operation of the facility and its interaction with its
27 residents supports, to the maximum extent possible, each resident's
28 need for autonomy and the right to make decisions regarding his or
29 her own life;

30 (5) The operation of the facility is designed to foster a social
31 climate that allows the resident to develop and maintain personal
32 relationships with fellow residents and with persons in the general
33 community;

34 (6) The facility is designed to minimize and is operated in a
35 manner which minimizes the need for its residents to move out of
36 the facility as their respective physical and mental conditions change
37 over time; and

38 (7) The facility is operated in such a manner as to foster a
39 culture that provides a high-quality environment for the residents,
40 their families, the staff, any volunteers and the community at large.

41 8. The Division may grant an exception from the requirement
42 of subparagraph (1) of paragraph (b) of subsection 7 to a facility
43 which is licensed as a residential facility for groups on or before
44 July 1, 2005, and which is authorized to have 10 or fewer beds and



1 was originally constructed as a single-family dwelling if the
2 Division finds that:

3 (a) Strict application of that requirement would result in
4 economic hardship to the facility requesting the exception; and

5 (b) The exception, if granted, would not:

6 (1) Cause substantial detriment to the health or welfare of
7 any resident of the facility;

8 (2) Result in more than two residents sharing a toilet facility;

9 or

10 (3) Otherwise impair substantially the purpose of that
11 requirement.

12 9. The Board shall, if it determines necessary, adopt
13 regulations and requirements to ensure that each residential facility
14 for groups and its staff are prepared to respond to an emergency,
15 including, without limitation:

16 (a) The adoption of plans to respond to a natural disaster and
17 other types of emergency situations, including, without limitation,
18 an emergency involving fire;

19 (b) The adoption of plans to provide for the evacuation of a
20 residential facility for groups in an emergency, including, without
21 limitation, plans to ensure that nonambulatory patients may be
22 evacuated;

23 (c) Educating the residents of residential facilities for groups
24 concerning the plans adopted pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b); and

25 (d) Posting the plans or a summary of the plans adopted
26 pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) in a conspicuous place in each
27 residential facility for groups.

28 10. The regulations governing the licensing and operation of
29 facilities for transitional living for released offenders must provide
30 for the licensure of at least three different types of facilities,
31 including, without limitation:

32 (a) Facilities that only provide a housing and living
33 environment;

34 (b) Facilities that provide or arrange for the provision of
35 supportive services for residents of the facility to assist the residents
36 with reintegration into the community, in addition to providing a
37 housing and living environment; and

38 (c) Facilities that provide or arrange for the provision of
39 programs for alcohol and other substance use disorders, in addition
40 to providing a housing and living environment and providing or
41 arranging for the provision of other supportive services.

42 ➤ The regulations must provide that if a facility was originally
43 constructed as a single-family dwelling, the facility must not be
44 authorized for more than eight beds.



1 11. The Board shall adopt regulations applicable to providers
2 of community-based living arrangement services which:

3 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), require a
4 natural person responsible for the operation of a provider of
5 community-based living arrangement services and each employee of
6 a provider of community-based living arrangement services who
7 supervises or provides support to recipients of community-based
8 living arrangement services to complete training concerning the
9 provision of community-based living arrangement services to
10 persons with mental illness and continuing education concerning the
11 particular population served by the provider;

12 (b) Exempt a person licensed or certified pursuant to title 54 of
13 NRS from the requirements prescribed pursuant to paragraph (a) if
14 the Board determines that the person is required to receive training
15 and continuing education substantially equivalent to that prescribed
16 pursuant to that paragraph;

17 (c) Require a natural person responsible for the operation of a
18 provider of community-based living arrangement services to receive
19 training concerning the provisions of title 53 of NRS applicable to
20 the provision of community-based living arrangement services; and

21 (d) Require an applicant for a license to provide community-
22 based living arrangement services to post a surety bond in an
23 amount equal to the operating expenses of the applicant for 2
24 months, place that amount in escrow or take another action
25 prescribed by the Division to ensure that, if the applicant becomes
26 insolvent, recipients of community-based living arrangement
27 services from the applicant may continue to receive community-
28 based living arrangement services for 2 months at the expense of the
29 applicant.

30 12. The Board shall adopt separate regulations governing the
31 licensing and operation of freestanding birthing centers. Such
32 regulations must:

33 (a) Align with the standards established by the American
34 Association of Birth Centers, or its successor organization, the
35 accrediting body of the Commission for the Accreditation of Birth
36 Centers, or its successor organization, or another nationally
37 recognized organization for accrediting freestanding birthing
38 centers; and

39 (b) Allow the provision of supervised training to providers of
40 health care, as appropriate, at a freestanding birthing center.

41 13. *If the regulations adopted pursuant to this section require*
42 *a physical examination to be performed on a patient or the*
43 *medical history of a patient to be obtained before or after the*
44 *patient is admitted to a hospital, those regulations must authorize*
45 *a certified nurse-midwife to perform such a physical examination*



1 *or obtain such a medical history before or after a patient is*
2 *admitted to a hospital for the purpose of giving birth.*

3 **14.** As used in this section ~~[, “living”]~~:

4 (a) *“Certified nurse-midwife” means a person who is:*

5 (1) *Certified as a Certified Nurse-Midwife by the American*
6 *Midwifery Certification Board, or its successor organization; and*

7 (2) *Licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse*
8 *pursuant to NRS 632.237.*

9 (b) *“Living unit” means an individual private accommodation*
10 *designated for a resident within the facility.*

11 **Sec. 2.** NRS 287.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 287.010 1. The governing body of any county, school
13 district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public
14 corporation or other local governmental agency of the State of
15 Nevada may:

16 (a) Adopt and carry into effect a system of group life, accident
17 or health insurance, or any combination thereof, for the benefit of its
18 officers and employees, and the dependents of officers and
19 employees who elect to accept the insurance and who, where
20 necessary, have authorized the governing body to make deductions
21 from their compensation for the payment of premiums on the
22 insurance.

23 (b) Purchase group policies of life, accident or health insurance,
24 or any combination thereof, for the benefit of such officers and
25 employees, and the dependents of such officers and employees, as
26 have authorized the purchase, from insurance companies authorized
27 to transact the business of such insurance in the State of Nevada,
28 and, where necessary, deduct from the compensation of officers and
29 employees the premiums upon insurance and pay the deductions
30 upon the premiums.

31 (c) Provide group life, accident or health coverage through a
32 self-insurance reserve fund and, where necessary, deduct
33 contributions to the maintenance of the fund from the compensation
34 of officers and employees and pay the deductions into the fund. The
35 money accumulated for this purpose through deductions from the
36 compensation of officers and employees and contributions of the
37 governing body must be maintained as an internal service fund as
38 defined by NRS 354.543. The money must be deposited in a state or
39 national bank or credit union authorized to transact business in the
40 State of Nevada. Any independent administrator of a fund created
41 under this section is subject to the licensing requirements of chapter
42 683A of NRS, and must be a resident of this State. Any contract
43 with an independent administrator must be approved by the
44 Commissioner of Insurance as to the reasonableness of
45 administrative charges in relation to contributions collected and



1 benefits provided. The provisions of NRS 686A.135, 687B.352,
2 687B.408, 687B.723, 687B.725, 689B.030 to 689B.050, inclusive,
3 689B.265, 689B.287 and 689B.500 *and section 4 of this act* apply
4 to coverage provided pursuant to this paragraph, except that the
5 provisions of NRS 689B.0378, 689B.03785 and 689B.500 only
6 apply to coverage for active officers and employees of the
7 governing body, or the dependents of such officers and employees.

8 (d) Defray part or all of the cost of maintenance of a self-
9 insurance fund or of the premiums upon insurance. The money for
10 contributions must be budgeted for in accordance with the laws
11 governing the county, school district, municipal corporation,
12 political subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental
13 agency of the State of Nevada.

14 2. If a school district offers group insurance to its officers and
15 employees pursuant to this section, members of the board of trustees
16 of the school district must not be excluded from participating in the
17 group insurance. If the amount of the deductions from compensation
18 required to pay for the group insurance exceeds the compensation
19 which a trustee is entitled, the difference must be paid by the trustee.

20 3. In any county in which a legal services organization exists,
21 the governing body of the county, or of any school district,
22 municipal corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or
23 other local governmental agency of the State of Nevada in the
24 county, may enter into a contract with the legal services
25 organization pursuant to which the officers and employees of the
26 legal services organization, and the dependents of those officers and
27 employees, are eligible for any life, accident or health insurance
28 provided pursuant to this section to the officers and employees, and
29 the dependents of the officers and employees, of the county, school
30 district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public
31 corporation or other local governmental agency.

32 4. If a contract is entered into pursuant to subsection 3, the
33 officers and employees of the legal services organization:

34 (a) Shall be deemed, solely for the purposes of this section, to be
35 officers and employees of the county, school district, municipal
36 corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or other local
37 governmental agency with which the legal services organization has
38 contracted; and

39 (b) Must be required by the contract to pay the premiums or
40 contributions for all insurance which they elect to accept or of which
41 they authorize the purchase.

42 5. A contract that is entered into pursuant to subsection 3:

43 (a) Must be submitted to the Commissioner of Insurance for
44 approval not less than 30 days before the date on which the contract
45 is to become effective.



1 (b) Does not become effective unless approved by the
2 Commissioner.

3 (c) Shall be deemed to be approved if not disapproved by the
4 Commissioner within 30 days after its submission.

5 6. As used in this section, "legal services organization" means
6 an organization that operates a program for legal aid and receives
7 money pursuant to NRS 19.031.

8 **Sec. 3.** NRS 287.04335 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 287.04335 If the Board provides health insurance through a
10 plan of self-insurance, it shall comply with the provisions of NRS
11 686A.135, 687B.352, 687B.409, 687B.723, 687B.725, 689B.0353,
12 689B.255, 695C.1723, 695G.150, 695G.155, 695G.160, 695G.162,
13 695G.1635, 695G.164, 695G.1645, 695G.1665, 695G.167,
14 695G.1675, 695G.170 to 695G.174, inclusive, 695G.176, 695G.177,
15 695G.200 to 695G.230, inclusive, 695G.241 to 695G.310, inclusive,
16 and 695G.405, *and section 4 of this act*, in the same manner as an
17 insurer that is licensed pursuant to title 57 of NRS is required to
18 comply with those provisions.

19 **Sec. 4.** Chapter 687B of NRS is hereby amended by adding
20 thereto a new section to read as follows:

21 *A health carrier which offers or issues a network plan may not*
22 *deny a request from a provider of health care to enter into a*
23 *provider network contract with the health carrier if the provider of*
24 *health care:*

25 *1. Meets the terms and conditions for participation in the*
26 *network of the health carrier;*

27 *2. Is employed by or has an open offer of employment from a*
28 *school of medicine or school of osteopathic medicine in this State;*
29 *and*

30 *3. Requests to be a participating provider of health care in the*
31 *network of the health carrier.*

32 **Sec. 5.** NRS 687B.600 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 687B.600 As used in NRS 687B.600 to 687B.850, inclusive,
34 *and section 4 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the
35 words and terms defined in NRS 687B.602 to 687B.665, inclusive,
36 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

37 **Sec. 6.** NRS 687B.670 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 687B.670 If a health carrier offers or issues a network plan, the
39 health carrier shall, with regard to that network plan:

40 1. Comply with all applicable requirements set forth in NRS
41 687B.600 to 687B.850, inclusive ~~§~~, *and section 4 of this act*;

42 2. As applicable, ensure that each contract entered into for the
43 purposes of the network plan between a participating provider of
44 health care and the health carrier complies with the requirements set



1 forth in NRS 687B.600 to 687B.850, inclusive ~~§~~, *and section 4 of*
2 *this act*; and

3 3. As applicable, ensure that the network plan complies with
4 the requirements set forth in NRS 687B.600 to 687B.850, inclusive
5 ~~§~~, *and section 4 of this act*.

6 **Sec. 7.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
7 approval.

8 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective:

9 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
10 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
11 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

12 (b) On October 1, 2023, for all other purposes.

