
SENATE BILL NO. 87—COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY)

PREFILED JANUARY 7, 2025

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to forensic medical examinations. (BDR 16-498)

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 forensic medical examinations; eliminating the authority of a compensation officer appointed by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to order the payment of compensation to reimburse a county for the costs of certain forensic medical examinations; requiring the State to pay from the State General Fund the costs of a forensic medical examination of a victim of a sexual assault or domestic violence battery by strangulation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law: (1) requires a county in whose jurisdiction a sexual assault is
2 committed to pay any costs incurred by a hospital for the forensic medical
3 examination of the victim; and (2) authorizes a compensation officer appointed by
4 the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to order the payment
5 of compensation to reimburse a county for the costs of the forensic medical
6 examination. (NRS 217.160, 217.300) **Section 2** of this bill instead requires the
7 State to pay from the State General Fund the costs for such a forensic medical
8 examination. **Section 1** of this bill eliminates the authority of a compensation
9 officer to order the payment of compensation to reimburse a county for the costs of
10 such a forensic medical examination.

11 Existing law requires a county in whose jurisdiction a domestic violence battery
12 by strangulation is committed to pay any costs incurred by a hospital for a
13 strangulation forensic medical examination of the victim. (NRS 217.405) **Section 3**



14 of this bill instead requires the State to pay from the State General Fund the costs
15 for such a forensic medical examination.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 217.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 217.160 1. The compensation officer may order the payment
3 of compensation:

4 (a) To or for the benefit of the victim.

5 (b) If the victim has suffered personal injury, to any person
6 responsible for the maintenance of the victim who has suffered
7 pecuniary loss or incurred expenses as a result of the injury.

8 (c) If the victim dies, to or for the benefit of any one or more of
9 the dependents of the victim.

10 (d) To a minor who is a member of the household or immediate
11 family of a victim of a battery which constitutes domestic violence
12 pursuant to NRS 33.018 who needs an assessment, a psychological
13 evaluation or psychological counseling for emotional trauma
14 suffered by the minor as a result of the battery.

15 (e) To a member of the victim's household or immediate family
16 for psychological counseling for emotional trauma suffered by the
17 member as a result of the crime of murder as defined in
18 NRS 200.010.

19 ~~[(f) To a county in whose jurisdiction a sexual assault was~~
20 ~~committed for the reimbursement of costs associated with a forensic~~
21 ~~medical examination of a victim of sexual assault that are paid by~~
22 ~~the county pursuant to NRS 217.300. A county may be reimbursed~~
23 ~~pursuant to this paragraph in an amount equal to the cost of 10~~
24 ~~forensic medical examinations or \$10,000, whichever is less, each~~
25 ~~fiscal year.]~~

26 2. As used in this section:

27 (a) "Battery" has the meaning ascribed to it in paragraph (a) of
28 subsection 1 of NRS 200.481.

29 (b) ~~["Forensic medical examination" has the meaning ascribed~~
30 ~~to it in NRS 217.300.~~

31 ~~(c)~~ "Household" means an association of persons who live in
32 the same home or dwelling and who:

33 (1) Have significant personal ties to the victim; or

34 (2) Are related by blood, adoption or marriage, within the
35 first degree of consanguinity or affinity.

36 ~~[(d)]~~ (c) "Immediate family" means persons who are related by
37 blood, adoption or marriage, within the first degree of consanguinity
38 or affinity.



1 ~~[(c) “Victim of sexual assault” has the meaning ascribed to it in~~
2 ~~NRS 217.280.]~~

3 **Sec. 2.** NRS 217.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 217.300 1. The county in whose jurisdiction a sexual assault
5 is committed shall ~~[-~~

6 ~~—(a) Pay] pay~~ any costs incurred for medical care for any physical
7 injuries resulting from the sexual assault which is provided to the
8 victim not later than 72 hours after the victim first arrives for
9 treatment.

10 ~~[(b) Pay]~~

11 **2. The State shall pay from the State General Fund** any costs
12 incurred by a hospital for the forensic medical examination of the
13 victim.

14 ~~[2.] 3.~~ Any costs incurred pursuant to subsection 1:

15 (a) Must not be charged directly to the victim of sexual assault.

16 (b) Must be charged to the county in whose jurisdiction the
17 offense was committed.

18 ~~[3.] 4. Any costs incurred pursuant to subsection 2:~~

19 (a) ~~Must not be charged directly to the victim of sexual assault.~~

20 (b) ~~Must be charged to the State and paid from the State~~
21 ~~General Fund.~~

22 **5.** The filing of a report with the appropriate law enforcement
23 agency must not be a prerequisite to qualify for a forensic medical
24 examination pursuant to this section.

25 ~~[4.] 6.~~ The costs associated with a forensic medical
26 examination must not be included in the costs for medical treatment
27 pursuant to NRS 217.310.

28 ~~[5.] 7.~~ As used in this section, “forensic medical examination”
29 means an examination by a health care provider to obtain evidence
30 from a victim of sexual assault.

31 **Sec. 3.** NRS 217.405 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 217.405 1. The ~~[county in whose jurisdiction a domestic~~
33 ~~violence battery by strangulation is committed] State~~ shall pay ~~from~~
34 ~~the State General Fund~~ any costs incurred by a hospital for a
35 strangulation forensic medical examination of the victim.

36 2. Any costs incurred pursuant to subsection 1:

37 (a) Must not be charged directly to the victim.

38 (b) Must be charged to the ~~[county in whose jurisdiction the~~
39 ~~offense was committed.] State and paid from the State General~~
40 ~~Fund.~~

41 3. ~~[A county which pays costs related to a strangulation~~
42 ~~forensic medical examination pursuant to subsection 1 may, to the~~
43 ~~extent that money is available for that purpose from legislative~~
44 ~~appropriation, receive reimbursement from the State.]~~



1 ~~—4.]~~ The filing of a report with the appropriate law enforcement
2 agency must not be a prerequisite to qualify for a strangulation
3 forensic medical examination pursuant to this section.

4 ~~[5.]~~ 4. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
5 use of evidence obtained from a strangulation forensic medical
6 examination during the investigation or prosecution of a person for
7 domestic violence battery by strangulation.

8 ~~[6.]~~ 5. As used in this section:

9 (a) “Domestic violence battery by strangulation” means a
10 battery which constitutes domestic violence pursuant to NRS 33.018
11 that is committed by strangulation as described in NRS 200.481.

12 (b) “Strangulation forensic medical examination” means an
13 examination conducted by a health care provider for the purpose of
14 assessing the health care needs of a victim of a domestic violence
15 battery by strangulation and coordinating the treatment of any
16 injuries of the victim.

17 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

