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SENATE BILL NO. 459–COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### (ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNOR)

# MARCH 23, 2015

# Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Establishes an opioid overdose prevention policy for Nevada. (BDR 40-1199)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. 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 controlled substances; enacting the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act; authorizing certain health care professionals to prescribe and dispense an opioid antagonist to certain persons under certain circumstances; providing immunity from civil and criminal liability and professional discipline for such prescribing and dispensing of an opioid antagonist; providing criminal and other immunity for persons who seek medical assistance for a person who is experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose under certain circumstances; authorizing certain licensing boards to require that certain persons registered by the State Board of Pharmacy receive periodic training concerning the misuse and abuse of controlled substances; authorizing the imposition of disciplinary action for failure to complete such training; requiring that certain information concerning а prescription for a controlled substance be uploaded to the database of a certain computerized program; revising requirements for certain persons to access a certain computerized program before initiating a prescription for a controlled substance; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.





#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Sections 2-12 of this bill enact the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act, the provisions of which have been enacted in part or in entirety by at least 28 other states.

2345678 Under existing law, certain health care professionals may prescribe, dispense or otherwise furnish an opioid antagonist to a person at risk of experiencing an opioidrelated drug overdose. (Chapter 454 of NRS) Section 7 of this bill authorizes certain physicians, physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses to prescribe and dispense an opioid antagonist to a family member, friend or other ğ person who is in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-10 related drug overdose and provides immunity from civil and criminal liability and 11 professional discipline for doing so. Section 8 of this bill authorizes the storage and 12 dispensing of opioid antagonists by certain persons who are not registered or 13 licensed by the State Board of Pharmacy. Section 9 of this bill provides for the 14 development of standardized procedures and protocols under which a registered 15 pharmacist may furnish an opioid antagonist.

16 Existing law establishes criminal liability for various activities relating to 17 controlled substances. (Chapter 453 of NRS) Section 12 of this bill provides that a 18 person who, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for a person who is 19 experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose or other medical emergency or who seeks 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 such assistance for himself or herself, or who is the subject of a good faith request for such assistance may not be arrested, charged, prosecuted or convicted, or have his or her property subjected to forfeiture, or be otherwise penalized for violating: (1) certain provisions of existing law governing controlled substances; (2) a restraining order; or (3) a condition of the person's parole or probation, if the evidence to support the arrest, charge, prosecution, conviction, seizure or penalty was gained as a result of the person's seeking such medical assistance. Section 12 also provides that the act of seeking such assistance may be raised in mitigation in connection with certain other crimes.

Existing law requires every practitioner or other person who dispenses a controlled substance within this State to register biennially with the State Board of 31 32 33 34 Pharmacy. (NRS 453.226) Sections 15.1-15.9 of this bill authorize the professional licensing boards of the various practitioners who are eligible for such registration to: (1) require their licensees who are registered to dispense a controlled substance to periodically complete certain training concerning the misuse and abuse of 35 controlled substances; and (2) impose disciplinary action on a practitioner who fails 36 37 to do so.

Existing law requires the State Board of Pharmacy and the Investigation 38 Division of the Department of Public Safety to cooperatively develop a 39 computerized program to track each prescription for a controlled substance. Persons 40 who prescribe or dispense controlled substances can choose to access the database 41 of the program and are given access to the database after receiving a course of 42 training developed by the Board and the Division. (NRS 453.1545) Section 13 of 43 this bill requires each person who dispenses a controlled substance to upload 44 certain information to the database of the program not later than the end of the next 45 business day after dispensing the controlled substance.

46 Existing law requires a practitioner to obtain a patient utilization report 47 regarding a patient before writing a prescription for a controlled substance if the 48 patient is a new patient or a current patient who has not received a prescription for a 49 controlled substance from the practitioner in the preceding 12 months. (NRS 50 639.23507) Section 16 of this bill: (1) requires a practitioner to obtain a patient 51 utilization report before initiating a prescription for a controlled substance; (2) 52 exempts from liability a practitioner who fails to obtain such a report under certain 53 circumstances; and (3) requires the Board to adopt regulations to provide





54 alternative methods of complying with the requirement to obtain such a report for a 55 physician who provides services in a hospital emergency department.

1 WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature finds and declares that 2 overdose deaths from drug or alcohol use is a major public health 3 and safety problem in Nevada and in the United States, such that 4 overdose deaths now annually exceed those caused by homicide or 5 vehicle collisions; and

6 WHEREAS, The use and abuse of both legal and illegal 7 substances, especially opioids, has increased in Nevada at an 8 alarming rate, contributing to addiction, crime, incarceration and 9 imprisonment, mental illness, suicide, family breakdown, and 10 increased costs of medical and mental health treatment for youth 11 and adults in Nevada; and

12 WHEREAS, Overdose death is preventable through the timely 13 administration of safe, effective, nonnarcotic antidote drugs which 14 reverse the effects of opioid overdose in minutes, are not controlled 15 substances, and have no abuse potential; and

16 WHEREAS, Effective and successful opioid overdose prevention 17 programs have been implemented in 25 states, and such efforts are now encouraged and promoted by the American Medical 18 19 Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, the National Office of Drug Control Policy, the Substance Abuse and Mental 20 Health Services Administration, the United States Department of 21 22 Justice, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the 23 American Public Health Association, the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, the National Association 24 25 of Drug Court Professionals and countless more law enforcement 26 and treatment professionals; and

WHEREAS, Numerous states have implemented "911 Good Samaritan Statutes" encouraging citizens and professionals to seek or provide overdose reversal and emergency medical assistance to persons who appear to be experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose, and have provided for immunity from civil, criminal and professional liability for such actions; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of an opioid overdose prevention policy and "911 Good Samaritan Statutes" are in the best interest of Nevadans and such lifesaving practices and programs should be established, recognized, encouraged and implemented in Nevada to be available to residents and visitors; now therefore.





4 Section 1. Title 40 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 5 thereto a new chapter to consist of the provisions set forth as 6 sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this act.

7 Sec. 2. This chapter may be cited as the Good Samaritan 8 **Drug Overdose Act.** 

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise 9 requires, the words and terms defined in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this 10 act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections. 11

12 Sec. 4. 1. "Health care professional" means a physician, a 13 physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse. 14

2. As used in this section:

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(a) "Advanced practice registered nurse" has the meaning 15 ascribed to it in NRS 632.012. 16

(b) "Physician" means a physician licensed pursuant to 17 18 chapter 630 or 633 of NRS.

(c) "Physician assistant" means a physician assistant licensed 19 pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS. 20

21 Sec. 5. "Opioid antagonist" means any drug that binds to 22 opioid receptors and blocks or disinhibits the effects of opioids 23 acting on those receptors. The term includes, without limitation, 24 naloxone hydrochloride.

"Opioid-related drug overdose" means a condition 25 Sec. 6. 26 including, without limitation, extreme physical illness, a decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma or death 27 resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid, or another 28 substance with which an opioid was combined, or that an ordinary 29 layperson would reasonably believe to be an opioid-related drug 30 31 overdose that requires medical assistance.

Sec. 7. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a 32 33 health care professional otherwise authorized to prescribe an opioid antagonist may, directly or by standing order, prescribe and 34 dispense an opioid antagonist to a person at risk of experiencing 35 36 an opioid-related drug overdose or to a family member, friend or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing 37 38 an opioid-related drug overdose. Any such prescription must be regarded as being issued for a legitimate medical purpose in the 39 40 usual course of professional practice.

2. A person who, acting in good faith and with reasonable 41 care, prescribes or dispenses an opioid antagonist pursuant to 42 subsection 1, is not subject to any criminal or civil liability or any 43 44 professional disciplinary action for:

(a) Such prescribing or dispensing; or 45





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1 (b) Any outcomes that result from the eventual administration 2 of the opioid antagonist. 3

3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

(a) Any person, including, without limitation, a law enforcement officer, acting in good faith, may possess and 4 5 administer an opioid antagonist to another person whom he or she 6 reasonably believes to be experiencing an opioid-related drug 7 8 overdose.

(b) An emergency medical technician, advanced emergency 9 medical technician or paramedic, as defined in chapter 450B of 10 NRS, is authorized to administer an opioid antagonist as clinically 11 12 indicated.

13 4. A person who, acting in good faith and with reasonable 14 care, administers an opioid antagonist to another person whom the person believes to be experiencing an opioid-related drug 15 16 overdose is immune from criminal prosecution, sanction under any professional licensing statute and civil liability for such act. 17

Sec. 8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person 18 19 acting under a standing order issued by a health care professional who is otherwise authorized to prescribe an opioid antagonist may 20 store an opioid antagonist without being subject to the registration 21 and licensing provisions of chapter 639 of NRS and may dispense 22 an opioid antagonist if those activities are undertaken without 23 charge or compensation. 24

25 Sec. 9. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a registered pharmacist may furnish an opioid antagonist in 26 27 accordance with standardized procedures or protocols developed and approved by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to this 28 29 section.

30 2. The State Board of Pharmacy may, in consultation with representatives of the Nevada Pharmacist Association, other 31 32 appropriate professional licensing boards, state agencies and other interested parties, develop standardized procedures or protocols to 33 enable a registered pharmacist and other appropriate entities to 34 35 furnish an opioid antagonist pursuant to this section.

Standardized procedures or protocols adopted pursuant to 36 3. this section must ensure that a person receive education before 37 being furnished with an opioid antagonist pursuant to this section. 38 39 The education must include, without limitation:

(a) Information concerning the prevention and recognition of 40 and responses to opioid-related drug overdoses; 41

42 (b) Methods for the safe administration of opioid antagonists to a person experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; 43

44 (c) Potential side effects and adverse events connected with the 45 administration of opioid antagonists;





(d) The importance of seeking emergency medical assistance 1 2 for a person experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose even 3 after the administration of an opioid antagonist; and

4 (e) Information concerning the provisions of section 12 of this 5 act.

6 4. A pharmacist shall, before furnishing an opioid antagonist pursuant to this section, complete a training program on the use of 7 opioid antagonists. The program must include at least 1 hour of 8 approved continuing education on the use of opioid antagonists. 9 10

5. This section does not:

(a) Affect any provision of law concerning the confidentiality 11 12 of medical information.

(b) Confer any authority on a registered pharmacist to 13 14 prescribe an opioid antagonist or any other prescription 15 medication or controlled substance.

16 Sec. 10. 1. The Department of Health and Human Services may engage in efforts to ascertain and document the number, 17 trends, patterns and risk factors related to fatalities caused by 18 unintentional opioid-related drug overdoses and other drug 19 20 overdoses.

21 2. The Department of Health and Human Services may 22 publish an annual report that:

(a) Presents the information acquired pursuant to subsection 23 24 1: and

25 (b) Provides information concerning interventions that may be effective in reducing fatal and nonfatal opioid-related drug 26 27 overdoses and other drug overdoses.

Sec. 11. The Department of Health and Human Services 28 29 may, within the limits of available money, award grants for:

1. Educational programs for the prevention and recognition 30 of and responses to opioid-related drug overdoses and other drug 31 32 overdoses;

2. Training programs for patients who receive opioid antagonists and for the families and caregivers of such patients 33 34 concerning the prevention and recognition of and responses to 35 opioid-related drug overdoses and other drug overdoses; 36

3. Projects to encourage, when appropriate, the prescription 37 and distribution of opioid antagonists; and 38

4. Education and training programs on the prevention and 39 recognition of and responses to opioid-related drug overdoses and 40 other drug overdoses for members and volunteers of law 41 enforcement agencies and agencies that provide emergency 42 medical services and other emergency services. 43

44 Sec. 12. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a 45 person who, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for a person





who is experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose or other medical 1 2 emergency or who seeks such assistance for himself or herself, or who is the subject of a good faith request for such assistance may 3 not be arrested, charged, prosecuted or convicted, or have his or 4 5 her property subjected to forfeiture, or be otherwise penalized for 6 violating:

7 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a provision 8 of chapter 453 of NRS relating to:

9 (1) Drug paraphernalia, including, without limitation, NRS 10 453.554 to 453.566, inclusive;

(2) Possession, unless it is for the purpose of sale or 11 violates the provisions of NRS 453.3385, subsection 2 of NRS 12 13 453.3393, 453.3395 or 453.3405; or

14 (3) Use of a controlled substance, including, without 15 limitation. NRS 453.336.

16 (b) A local ordinance as described in NRS 453.3361 that 17 establishes an offense that is similar to an offense set forth in 18 NRS 453.366:

19 (c) A restraining order; or

(d) A condition of the person's parole or probation, 20

if the evidence to support the arrest, charge, prosecution, 21 22 conviction, seizure or penalty was obtained as a result of the 23 person seeking medical assistance.

2. A court, before sentencing a person who has been convicted of a violation of chapter 453 of NRS for which immunity 24 25 is not provided by this section, shall consider in mitigation any 26 evidence or information that the defendant, in good faith, sought 27 28 medical assistance for a person who was experiencing a drug or 29 alcohol overdose or other life-threatening emergency in 30 connection with the events that constituted the violation.

31 3. For the purposes of this section, a person seeks medical 32 assistance if the person:

33 (a) Reports a drug or alcohol overdose or other medical emergency to a member of a law enforcement agency, a 911 34 35 emergency service, a poison control center, a medical facility or a provider of emergency medical services; 36 37

(b) Assists another person making such a report;

38 (c) Provides care to a person who is experiencing a drug or 39 alcohol overdose or other medical emergency while awaiting the arrival of medical assistance; or 40

(d) Delivers a person who is experiencing a drug or alcohol 41 overdose or other medical emergency to a medical facility and 42 notifies the appropriate authorities. 43

4. The provisions of this section do not prohibit any 44 45 governmental entity from taking any actions required or





1 authorized by chapter 432B of NRS relating to the abuse or 2 neglect of a child.

3 5. As used in this section, "drug or alcohol overdose" means 4 a condition, including, without limitation, extreme physical illness, 5 a decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma, 6 mania or death which is caused by the consumption or use of a 7 controlled substance or alcohol, or another substance with which 8 a controlled substance or alcohol was combined, or that an 9 ordinary layperson would reasonably believe to be a drug or 10 alcohol overdose that requires medical assistance.

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**Sec. 13.** NRS 453.1545 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 453.1545 1. The Board and the Division shall cooperatively 13 develop a computerized program to track each prescription for a 14 controlled substance listed in schedule II, III or IV that is filled by a 15 pharmacy that is registered with the Board or that is dispensed by 16 a practitioner who is registered with the Board. The program must:

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(a) Be designed to provide information regarding:

18 (1) The inappropriate use by a patient of controlled 19 substances listed in schedules II, III and IV to pharmacies, 20 practitioners and appropriate state agencies to prevent the improper 21 or illegal use of those controlled substances; and

(2) Statistical data relating to the use of those controlledsubstances that is not specific to a particular patient.

(b) Be administered by the Board, the Investigation Division,
the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department and
various practitioners, representatives of professional associations for
practitioners, representatives of occupational licensing boards and
prosecuting attorneys selected by the Board and the Investigation
Division.

30 (c) Not infringe on the legal use of a controlled substance for the31 management of severe or intractable pain.

32 (d) Include the contact information of each person who [elects]
 33 *is required* to access the database of the program pursuant to
 34 subsection [2,] 3, including, without limitation:

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(1) The name of the person;

36 37 (2) The physical address of the person;(3) The telephone number of the person; and

38 (4) If the person maintains an electronic mail address, the39 electronic mail address of the person.

40 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, each 41 person registered pursuant to this chapter to dispense a controlled 42 substance listed in Schedule II, III or IV shall, not later than the 43 end of the next business day after dispensing a controlled 44 substance, upload to the database of the program established 45 pursuant to subsection 1 the information described in paragraph





1 (d) of subsection 1. The requirements of this subsection do not 2 apply if the controlled substance is administered directly by a practitioner to a patient in a health care facility, as defined in NRS 3 439.960, a child who is a resident in a child care facility, as 4 defined in NRS 432A.024, or a prisoner, as defined in NRS 5 6 208.085. The Board shall establish by regulation and impose administrative penalties for the failure to upload information 7 8 pursuant to this subsection.

3. The Board shall provide Internet access to the database of
the program established pursuant to subsection 1 to each practitioner
who is authorized to write prescriptions for and each person who is
authorized to dispense controlled substances listed in schedule II, III
or IV who +:

14 (a) Elects to access the database of the program; and

(b) Completes] completes the course of instruction described in
 subsection [7.] 8.

17 [3.] 4. The Board and the Division must have access to the 18 program established pursuant to subsection 1 to identify any 19 suspected fraudulent or illegal activity related to the dispensing of 20 controlled substances.

21 **[4.] 5.** The Board or the Division shall report any activity it 22 reasonably suspects may be fraudulent or illegal to the appropriate 23 law enforcement agency or occupational licensing board and 24 provide the law enforcement agency or occupational licensing board 25 with the relevant information obtained from the program for further 26 investigation.

27 The Board and the Division may cooperatively enter <del>[5.]</del> 6. 28 into a written agreement with an agency of any other state to 29 provide, receive or exchange information obtained by the program 30 with a program established in that state which is substantially 31 similar to the program established pursuant to subsection 1, including, without limitation, providing such state access to the 32 33 database of the program or transmitting information to and receiving 34 information from such state. Any information provided, received or 35 exchanged as part of an agreement made pursuant to this section 36 may only be used in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Information obtained from the program relating to a
practitioner or a patient is confidential and, except as otherwise
provided by this section and NRS 239.0115, must not be disclosed
to any person. That information must be disclosed:

(a) Upon the request of a person about whom the information
requested concerns or upon the request on behalf of that person by
his or her attorney; or

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(b) Upon the lawful order of a court of competent jurisdiction.





1 **7. 8.** The Board and the Division shall cooperatively develop 2 a course of training for persons [who elect] required to access the database of the program pursuant to subsection  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  3 and require 3 4 each such person to complete the course of training before the 5 person is provided with Internet access to the database pursuant to 6 subsection  $\frac{2}{3}$ .

7 **18.** 9. A practitioner who is authorized to write prescriptions 8 for and each person who is authorized to dispense controlled 9 substances listed in schedule II, III or IV who acts with reasonable 10 care when transmitting to the Board or the Division a report or 11 information required by this section or a regulation adopted pursuant 12 thereto is immune from civil and criminal liability relating to such 13 action.

14 **10.** The Board and the Division may apply for any 15 available grants and accept any gifts, grants or donations to assist in 16 developing and maintaining the program required by this section.

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Sec. 14. (Deleted by amendment.) Sec. 15. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 15.1. Chapter 630 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 19 20 thereto a new section to read as follows:

21 The Board may, by regulation, require each physician or 22 physician assistant who is registered to dispense controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of 23 training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled 24 substances during each period of licensure. Any licensee may use 25 such training to satisfy 1 hour of any continuing education 26 27 requirement established by the Board. 28

Sec. 15.2. NRS 630.306 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 630.306 The following acts, among others, constitute grounds 30 for initiating disciplinary action or denying licensure:

31 1. Inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and 32 safety because of illness, a mental or physical condition or the use of 33 alcohol, drugs, narcotics or any other substance.

34 Engaging in any conduct: 2.

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(a) Which is intended to deceive;

(b) Which the Board has determined is a violation of the 36 37 standards of practice established by regulation of the Board; or

38 (c) Which is in violation of a regulation adopted by the State 39 Board of Pharmacy.

40 3. Administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled 41 substance, or any dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS, to or for himself or herself or to others except as authorized by law. 42

43 Performing, assisting or advising the injection of any 4. 44 substance containing liquid silicone into the human body, except for 45 the use of silicone oil to repair a retinal detachment.





5. Practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by law or performing services which the licensee knows or has reason to know that he or she is not competent to perform or which are beyond the scope of his or her training.

5 6. Performing, without first obtaining the informed consent of 6 the patient or the patient's family, any procedure or prescribing any 7 therapy which by the current standards of the practice of medicine is 8 experimental.

9 7. Continual failure to exercise the skill or diligence or use the 10 methods ordinarily exercised under the same circumstances by 11 physicians in good standing practicing in the same specialty or field.

12 8. Habitual intoxication from alcohol or dependency on 13 controlled substances.

9. Making or filing a report which the licensee or applicantknows to be false or failing to file a record or report as required bylaw or regulation.

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10. Failing to comply with the requirements of NRS 630.254.

18 11. Failure by a licensee or applicant to report in writing, 19 within 30 days, any disciplinary action taken against the licensee or 20 applicant by another state, the Federal Government or a foreign 21 country, including, without limitation, the revocation, suspension or 22 surrender of a license to practice medicine in another jurisdiction.

12. Failure by a licensee or applicant to report in writing, within 30 days, any criminal action taken or conviction obtained against the licensee or applicant, other than a minor traffic violation, in this State or any other state or by the Federal Government, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or any local or federal jurisdiction of a foreign country.

13. Failure to be found competent to practice medicine as a
result of an examination to determine medical competency pursuant
to NRS 630.318.

14. Operation of a medical facility at any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

(b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or
 revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

36  $\rightarrow$  This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible 37 for the operation of the facility.

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15. Failure to comply with the requirements of NRS 630.373.

16. Engaging in any act that is unsafe or unprofessionalconduct in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.

41 17. Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled
42 substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that
43 is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
44 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:





1 (a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to 2 chapter 639 of NRS;

3 (b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 4 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 5 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 6 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

7 (c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance 8 with chapter 453A of NRS.

9 18. Failure to supervise adequately a medical assistant pursuant 10 to the regulations of the Board.

11 **19.** Failure to obtain any training required by the Board 12 pursuant to section 15.1 of this act.

13 Sec. 15.3. Chapter 631 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 14 thereto a new section to read as follows:

15 The Board may, by regulation, require each holder of a license 16 to practice dentistry who is registered to dispense controlled 17 substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of 18 training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled

18 running retaining specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled 19 substances during each period of licensure. Any such holder of a

20 license may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any continuing
 21 education requirement established by the Board.

22 Sec. 15.4. NRS 631.3475 is hereby amended to read as 23 follows:

24 631.3475 The following acts, among others, constitute 25 unprofessional conduct:

- 26 1. Malpractice; 27 2 Professional
  - 2. Professional incompetence;
- 3. Suspension or revocation of a license to practice dentistry,
   the imposition of a fine or other disciplinary action by any agency of
   another state authorized to regulate the practice of dentistry in that
   state;

4. More than one act by the dentist or dental hygienist
constituting substandard care in the practice of dentistry or dental
hygiene;

35 5. Administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled
36 substance or any dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS,
37 if it is not required to treat the dentist's patient;

6. Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled
substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that
is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

42 (a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to 43 chapter 639 of NRS;

(b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been





recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 1 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or 2

(c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance 3 4 with chapter 453A of NRS;

5 7. Chronic or persistent inebriety or addiction to a controlled 6 substance, to such an extent as to render the person unsafe or 7 unreliable as a practitioner, or such gross immorality as tends to 8 bring reproach upon the dental profession;

8. Conviction of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral 9 10 turpitude or which relates to the practice of dentistry in this State, or conviction of any criminal violation of this chapter; 11

9. Conviction of violating any of the provisions of NRS 12 13 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 14 inclusive: or

15 10. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 16 449.0151, at any time during which: 17

(a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

18 (b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160. 19

20 This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible 21 for the operation of the facility.

22 11. Failure to obtain any training required by the Board 23 pursuant to section 15.3 of this act.

Sec. 15.5. Chapter 632 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 24 25 thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Board may, by regulation, require each advanced practice 26 27 registered nurse who is registered to dispense controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of 28 training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled 29 30 substances during each period of licensure. An advanced practice 31 registered nurse may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any 32 continuing education requirement established by the Board.

33 Sec. 15.55. NRS 632.320 is hereby amended to read as 34 follows:

35 632.320 1. The Board may deny, revoke or suspend any license or certificate applied for or issued pursuant to this chapter, or 36 take other disciplinary action against a licensee or holder of a 37 38 certificate, upon determining that the licensee or certificate holder:

39 (a) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to 40 procure a license or certificate pursuant to this chapter. (b) Is guilty of any offense:

- 41 42
- (1) Involving moral turpitude; or

43 (2) Related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a 44 licensee or holder of a certificate,





1  $\rightarrow$  in which case the record of conviction is conclusive evidence 2 thereof.

3 (c) Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of 4 NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, 5 inclusive.

6 (d) Is unfit or incompetent by reason of gross negligence or 7 recklessness in carrying out usual nursing functions.

8 (e) Uses any controlled substance, dangerous drug as defined in 9 chapter 454 of NRS, or intoxicating liquor to an extent or in a 10 manner which is dangerous or injurious to any other person or 11 which impairs his or her ability to conduct the practice authorized 12 by the license or certificate.

(f) Is a person with mental incompetence.

14 (g) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is 15 not limited to, the following:

16 (1) Conviction of practicing medicine without a license in 17 violation of chapter 630 of NRS, in which case the record of 18 conviction is conclusive evidence thereof.

19 (2) Impersonating any applicant or acting as proxy for an 20 applicant in any examination required pursuant to this chapter for 21 the issuance of a license or certificate.

(3) Impersonating another licensed practitioner or holder of acertificate.

(4) Permitting or allowing another person to use his or her
 license or certificate to practice as a licensed practical nurse,
 registered nurse, nursing assistant or medication aide - certified.

(5) Repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced by claims
 of malpractice settled against the licensee or certificate holder.

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(6) Physical, verbal or psychological abuse of a patient.

(7) Conviction for the use or unlawful possession of a
 controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of
 NRS.

(h) Has willfully or repeatedly violated the provisions of this
chapter. The voluntary surrender of a license or certificate issued
pursuant to this chapter is prima facie evidence that the licensee or
certificate holder has committed or expects to commit a violation of
this chapter.

(i) Is guilty of aiding or abetting any person in a violation of thischapter.

40 (j) Has falsified an entry on a patient's medical chart concerning 41 a controlled substance.

42 (k) Has falsified information which was given to a physician, 43 pharmacist, podiatric physician or dentist to obtain a controlled 44 substance.





(1) Has knowingly procured or administered a controlled
 substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that
 is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration,
 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

5 (1) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed 6 pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS;

7 (2) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 8 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 9 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 10 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

11 (3) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in 12 accordance with chapter 453A of NRS.

13 (m) Has been disciplined in another state in connection with a 14 license to practice nursing or a certificate to practice as a nursing 15 assistant or medication aide - certified, or has committed an act in 16 another state which would constitute a violation of this chapter.

17 (n) Has engaged in conduct likely to deceive, defraud or 18 endanger a patient or the general public.

19 (o) Has willfully failed to comply with a regulation, subpoena or 20 order of the Board.

21 22 (p) Has operated a medical facility at any time during which:

(1) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or

23 (2) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the
24 suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.
25 → This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible
26 for the operation of the facility.

(q) Is an advanced practice registered nurse who has failed to
 obtain any training required by the Board pursuant to section 15.5
 of this act.

2. For the purposes of this section, a plea or verdict of guilty or
guilty but mentally ill or a plea of nolo contendere constitutes a
conviction of an offense. The Board may take disciplinary action
pending the appeal of a conviction.

34 3. A licensee or certificate holder is not subject to disciplinary 35 action solely for administering auto-injectable epinephrine pursuant 36 to a valid order issued pursuant to NRS 630.374 or 633.707.

37 Sec. 15.6. Chapter 633 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 38 thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Board may, by regulation, require each osteopathic physician or physician assistant who is registered to dispense controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled substances during each period of licensure. Any licensee may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any continuing education requirement established by the Board.





Sec. 15.65. NRS 633.511 is hereby amended to read as 1 2 follows: 3 633.511 The grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant 4 to this chapter are: 5 1. Unprofessional conduct. 6 2. Conviction of: 7 (a) A violation of any federal or state law regulating the possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance or any 8 dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS; 9 (b) A felony relating to the practice of osteopathic medicine or 10 11 practice as a physician assistant; (c) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 12 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive; 13 14 (d) Murder, voluntary manslaughter or mayhem; (e) Any felony involving the use of a firearm or other deadly 15 16 weapon; 17 (f) Assault with intent to kill or to commit sexual assault or 18 mayhem; 19 (g) Sexual assault, statutory sexual seduction, incest, lewdness, 20 indecent exposure or any other sexually related crime; (h) Abuse or neglect of a child or contributory delinquency; or 21 22 (i) Any offense involving moral turpitude. The suspension of a license to practice osteopathic medicine 23 3. or to practice as a physician assistant by any other jurisdiction. 24 25 Malpractice or gross malpractice, which may be evidenced 4. by a claim of malpractice settled against a licensee. 26 27 Professional incompetence. 5. 6. Failure to comply with the requirements of NRS 633.527. 28 29 7. Failure to comply with the requirements of subsection 3 of 30 NRS 633.471. 31 8. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.694. 32 9. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, at any time during which: 33 (a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or 34 (b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or 35 revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160. 36 37 This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible 38 for the operation of the facility. 39 10. Failure to comply with the provisions of subsection 2 of NRS 633.322. 40 41 11. Signing a blank prescription form. 42 Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled 12. substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that 43 44 is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, 45 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug: 

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1 (a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to 2 chapter 639 of NRS;

3 (b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is 4 licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 5 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 6 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

7 (c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance 8 with chapter 453A of NRS.

9 13. Attempting, directly or indirectly, by intimidation, coercion 10 or deception, to obtain or retain a patient or to discourage the use of 11 a second opinion.

12 14. Terminating the medical care of a patient without adequate 13 notice or without making other arrangements for the continued care 14 of the patient.

15. In addition to the provisions of subsection 3 of NRS 633.524, making or filing a report which the licensee knows to be false, failing to file a record or report that is required by law or willfully obstructing or inducing another to obstruct the making or filing of such a record or report.

16. Failure to report any person the licensee knows, or has reason to know, is in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the Board within 30 days after the date the licensee knows or has reason to know of the violation.

17. Failure by a licensee or applicant to report in writing, within 30 days, any criminal action taken or conviction obtained against the licensee or applicant, other than a minor traffic violation, in this State or any other state or by the Federal Government, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or any local or federal jurisdiction of a foreign country.

30 18. Engaging in any act that is unsafe in accordance with 31 regulations adopted by the Board.

19. Failure to comply with the provisions of NRS 633.165.

20. Failure to supervise adequately a medical assistant pursuantto the regulations of the Board.

Failure to obtain any training required by the Board
 pursuant to section 15.6 of this act.

37 Sec. 15.7. Chapter 635 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 38 thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Board may, by regulation, require each holder of a license to practice podiatry who is registered to dispense controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at least 1 hour of training relating specifically to the misuse and abuse of controlled substances during each period of licensure. Any such holder of a license may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any continuing

45 education requirement established by the Board.



32



1 Sec. 15.75. NRS 635.130 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

635.130 1. The Board, after notice and a hearing as required 3 4 by law, and upon any cause enumerated in subsection 2, may take one or more of the following disciplinary actions: 5

6 (a) Deny an application for a license or refuse to renew a 7 license.

(b) Suspend or revoke a license.

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(c) Place a licensee on probation.

10 (d) Impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000.

The Board may take disciplinary action against a licensee for 11 2 12 any of the following causes:

13 (a) The making of a false statement in any affidavit required of 14 the applicant for application, examination or licensure pursuant to 15 the provisions of this chapter.

16 (b) Lending the use of the holder's name to an unlicensed 17 person.

18 (c) If the holder is a podiatric physician, permitting an unlicensed person in his or her employ to practice as a podiatry 19 20 hygienist.

21 (d) Habitual indulgence in the use of alcohol or any controlled substance which impairs the intellect and judgment to such an extent 22 as in the opinion of the Board incapacitates the holder in the 23 performance of his or her professional duties. 24 25

(e) Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude.

(f) Conviction of violating any of the provisions of NRS 26 27 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive. 28

29 (g) Conduct which in the opinion of the Board disqualifies the 30 licensee to practice with safety to the public.

(h) The commission of fraud by or on behalf of the licensee 31 32 regarding his or her license or practice.

(i) Gross incompetency.

(i) Affliction of the licensee with any mental or physical 34 35 disorder which seriously impairs his or her competence as a podiatric physician or podiatry hygienist. 36

(k) False representation by or on behalf of the licensee regarding 37 38 his or her practice.

39 (1) Unethical or unprofessional conduct.

40 (m) Failure to comply with the requirements of subsection 1 of 41 NRS 635.118.

(n) Willful or repeated violations of this chapter or regulations 42 43 adopted by the Board.

44 (o) Willful violation of the regulations adopted by the State 45 Board of Pharmacy.





1 (p) Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled 2 substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, 3 4 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

5 (1) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed 6 pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS;

7 (2) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been 8 9 recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to 10 subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

(3) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in 11 12 accordance with chapter 453A of NRS.

13 (g) Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, 14 at any time during which:

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(1) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

16 (2) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension 17 or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

18 This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible 19 for the operation of the facility.

(r) Failure to obtain any training required by the Board 20 21 pursuant to section 15.7 of this act.

22 Sec. 15.8. Chapter 636 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 23 thereto a new section to read as follows:

24 The Board may, by regulation, require each optometrist who is certified to administer and prescribe therapeutic pharmaceutical 25 agents pursuant to NRS 636.288 and who is registered to dispense 26 controlled substances pursuant to NRS 453.231 to complete at 27 28 least 1 hour of training relating specifically to the misuse and 29 abuse of controlled substances during each period of licensure. Any licensee may use such training to satisfy 1 hour of any 30 31 continuing education requirement established by the Board. 32

**Sec. 15.9.** NRS 636.295 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 636.295 The following acts, conduct, omissions, or mental or physical conditions, or any of them, committed, engaged in, 34 35 omitted, or being suffered by a licensee, constitute sufficient cause 36 for disciplinary action:

37 Affliction of the licensee with any communicable disease 1. 38 likely to be communicated to other persons.

39 2. Commission by the licensee of a felony relating to the 40 practice of optometry or a gross misdemeanor involving moral 41 turpitude of which the licensee has been convicted and from which he or she has been sentenced by a final judgment of a federal or 42 state court in this or any other state, the judgment not having been 43 44 reversed or vacated by a competent appellate court and the offense 45 not having been pardoned by executive authority.





1 3. Conviction of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 2 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive.

3 4. Commission of fraud by or on behalf of the licensee in 4 obtaining a license or a renewal thereof, or in practicing optometry 5 thereunder.

6 5. Habitual drunkenness or addiction to any controlled 7 substance.

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6. Gross incompetency.

9 7. Affliction with any mental or physical disorder or 10 disturbance seriously impairing his or her competency as an 11 optometrist.

12 8. Making false or misleading representations, by or on behalf 13 of the licensee, with respect to optometric materials or services.

9. Practice by the licensee, or attempting or offering so to do,while in an intoxicated condition.

16 10. Perpetration of unethical or unprofessional conduct in the 17 practice of optometry.

18 11. Knowingly procuring or administering a controlled 19 substance or a dangerous drug as defined in chapter 454 of NRS that 20 is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, 21 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

21 unless the unapproved controlled substance or dangerous drug:

(a) Was procured through a retail pharmacy licensed pursuant to
 chapter 639 of NRS;

(b) Was procured through a Canadian pharmacy which is licensed pursuant to chapter 639 of NRS and which has been recommended by the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 639.2328; or

(c) Is marijuana being used for medical purposes in accordance
 with chapter 453A of NRS.

30 12. Any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any 31 regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

32 13. Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 33 449.0151, at any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or

(b) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension orrevocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible
for the operation of the facility.

39 14. Failure to obtain any training required by the Board 40 pursuant to section 15.8 of this act.

41 Sec. 16. NRS 639.23507 is hereby amended to read as 42 follows:

43 639.23507 [A]

44 **1.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, a practitioner 45 shall, before [writing] initiating a prescription for a controlled





1 substance listed in schedule II, III or IV for a patient, obtain a 2 patient utilization report regarding the patient [for the preceding 12] months] from the computerized program established by the Board 3 4 and the Investigation Division of the Department of Public Safety 5 pursuant to NRS 453.1545. *[if the practitioner has a reasonable* 6 belief that the patient may be seeking the controlled substance, in 7 whole or in part, for any reason other than the treatment of an 8 existing medical condition and:

9 <u>1. The patient is a new patient of the practitioner; or</u>

The patient is a new patient of the pa

12 + The practitioner shall review the patient utilization report to 13 assess whether the prescription for the controlled substance is 14 medically necessary.

15 2. If a practitioner who attempts to obtain a patient utilization 16 report as required by subsection 1 fails to do so because the 17 computerized program is unresponsive or otherwise unavailable, 18 the practitioner:

19 (a) Shall be deemed to have complied with subsection 1 if the 20 practitioner documents the attempt and failure in the medical 21 record of the patient.

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(b) Is not liable for the failure.

The Board shall adopt regulations to provide alternative 23 3. methods of compliance with subsection 1 for a physician while he 24 25 or she is providing service in a hospital emergency department. The regulations must include, without limitation, provisions that 26 27 allow a hospital to designate members of hospital staff to act as delegates for the purposes of accessing the database of the 28 29 computerized program and obtaining patient utilization reports 30 from the computerized program on behalf of such a physician.

4. A practitioner who violates subsection 1:

31 32

(a) Is not guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) May be subject to professional discipline if the appropriate
 professional licensing board determines that the practitioner's
 violation was intentional.

5. As used in this section, "initiating a prescription" means originating a new prescription for a new patient of a practitioner or originating a new prescription to begin a new course of treatment for an existing patient of a practitioner. The term does not include any act concerning an ongoing prescription that is written to continue a course of treatment for an existing patient of a practitioner.

43 Sec. 16.5. NRS 639.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 44 639.310 [Unless] Except as otherwise provided in NRS
 45 639.23507, unless a greater penalty is specified, any person who





1 violates any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a 2 misdemeanor.

**Sec. 17.** 1. The Department of Health and Human Services shall, not later than October 1, 2015, add naloxone hydrochloride for outpatient use to the list of preferred prescription drugs to be used for the Medicaid program established by the Department pursuant to NRS 422.4025.

8 2. Any expenses incurred by the Department to provide 9 naloxone hydrochloride must be paid for through the existing 10 resources of the Medicaid program.

- 11 Sec. 18. This act becomes effective:
- 12 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any 13 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative 14 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
- 15 2. On October 1, 2015, for all other purposes.



