



The 78th Session of the Nevada Legislature Review



The 78th (2015) Session of the Nevada Legislature adjourned on June 1, 2015. Here are some important bills that will or would have impacted chronic disease prevention and health promotion in Nevada. Click on the bill number to see bill language.

APPROVED BILLS

[AB 42 - CANCER REGISTRY.](#) - APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 103. (May 19, 2015)

This bill removes barriers to the cancer reporting process and will improve the quality of data received throughout the state, creating a true snapshot of the burden of cancer in Nevada.

[AB 83 – REVISES PROVISIONS RELATING TO TOBACCO. GOVERNING SALE AND MANUFACTURING OF E-CIGARETTES.](#) - APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 488. (June 9, 2015)

An act relating to tobacco; expanding the definition of “manufacturer” to include certain persons manufacturing cigarettes using certain cigarette rolling machines; prohibiting a manufacturer from operating a cigarette rolling machine without a license from the Department of Taxation; authorizing the seizure and destruction of cigarette rolling machines under certain circumstances; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

[AB 107 – LUNCH PROGRAM REPORTING.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 204. (May 27, 2015)

This law requires the academic success of students who receive free and reduced school meals to be reported on annually. The intent of this bill is to provide data on the relationship between low-income students, nutrition and academic success or lack thereof.

[AB 152 – CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING CHILD CARE FACILITIES.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 305. (June 1, 2015)

An act relating to care of children; requiring the State Board of Health to adopt regulations setting forth certain requirements for child care facilities relating to breastfeeding and physical activity; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. Increases the number of national Obesity Prevention standards in Early Care and Education settings. Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) will now begin the regulation process.

[AB 199 – MAKES VARIOUS CHANGES TO CERTAIN ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND PROGRAMS RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 407. (June 8, 2015)

This bill assists in streamlining work completed by various advisory committees with similar goals and objectives into one wellness and chronic disease advisory council. This is a natural fit for the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease (CWCD) that is currently in statute because the existing advisory council already embeds arthritis, stroke and heart priorities within its goals and objectives.

[AB 285 – REVISES PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF CERTAIN MEDICATIONS BY PUPILS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 134. (May 21, 2015)

Revises NRS 392.425 to include self-administration of diabetes medication by pupils in public schools. There was one assembly amendment (No.321) that added additional public health and safety by requiring establishment of protocols for containing blood-borne pathogens and the handling and disposal of needles, medical devices and other medical waste; and providing immunity from liability to school personnel for certain harm as a result of the self-administration of medication by a pupil. The bill passed both houses unanimously as amended and was approved by the Governor on May 21, 2015. The result of this law allows a parent or legal guardian of a pupil living with diabetes to submit a written request to the public school to allow the pupil to self-administer medication for the treatment of diabetes while on the public school grounds, participating in a activity sponsored by a public school or on a school bus.

[AB 305 – AUTHORIZES AND PROVIDES FOR THE REGULATION OF COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 154. (May 25, 2015)

This bill recognizes Community Paramedicine within the state of Nevada, places certification requirements and regulations and will begin the ground work for payment reform around the area of community paramedicine.

[SB 48 – REVISES PROVISIONS RELATING TO HEALTH.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 224. (May 27, 2015).

Passage of this bill revises NRS 439 to eliminate requirement of the Director to establish an HIE and a governing body, amended definition of HIE, authorized the Director to establish or contract with HIE to serve as a statewide HIE and requires certification from the Director before an HIE may operate in the state. Other changes include provisions relating to children’s health records to require parent’s consent for record retrieval and transmission, establishment of regulations to ensure confidentiality, securing and compliance with federal laws, HIPPA protection for information not to be used for purposes unrelated to care, treatment, well-being or billing and patient consent for record retrieval and transmission and patient notification of a breach of confidentiality.

[SB 79 – PROVIDES FOR THE REGULATION AND TAXATION OF LIQUID NICOTINE.](#)

APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 435. (June 9, 2015)

An act relating to taxation; distinguishing alternative nicotine products and vapor products from other tobacco products for purposes of regulations and taxation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. Based on the wording, e-cigarettes are considered a non-tobacco product and will not be taxed at this point.

[SB 196 – REQUIRING A STATE STROKE REGISTRY.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 58. (May 13, 2015)

This bill implements a stroke registry at the state level with mandatory reporting requirement for all large medical systems and recommended reporting for smaller rural systems. It supports data sharing among entities. It will allow for a unified effort in stroke quality improvement among the health care continuum, but funding for super user fees and required MOUs still remain an outstanding issue for many entities. Currently all 15 Primary Stroke Centers in Nevada are reporting into the American Heart Association (AHA) Get With the Guidelines Stroke Registry.

[SB 225 – LIQUID NICOTINE AND YOUTH ACCESS.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 346. (June 4, 2015)

Minors are now prohibited from purchasing products with nicotine, however, based on wording, if a product has no nicotine, or is only paraphernalia, minors can purchase the products.

[SB 458 – REVISES PROVISIONS GOVERNING NOTIFICATIONS TO PATIENTS REGARDING BREAST DENSITY.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 319. (June 1, 2015)

Requires operators of mammography machines to send notifications to women with dense breast tissue informing the individual about the increased risk of breast cancer associated with dense breast tissue and recommending the individual consult with their doctor regarding further screening options. Prescribed language for this notification is included in the bill.

[SB 483 – INCREASES THE EXCISE TAX ON CIGARETTES.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 487. (June 9, 2015)

The increase in excise tax on cigarettes will prevent 10,200 kids from smoking, save 7,200 lives and save \$474 million in health care costs.

[SB 498 – PROVIDES FOR THE REGULATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER POOLS.](#) APPROVED by the Governor. Chapter 384. (June 05, 2015)

The bill passed in both houses with one amendment No. 924 made by the Senate Committee on Finance. This bill provides a setting of a mechanism in place that will help regulate the CHW workforce in Nevada, and monitor the qualifications and standards Community Health Worker agency pools in the state.

FAILED BILLS

[AB 197 – ESTABLISHES CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF SEASONAL OR TEMPORARY RECREATION PROGRAMS.](#) FAILED. This bill was intended to create legislation for out of school time programs to comply with certain health and safety standards and maintain certain participation. This bill failed to be passed out of the assembly.

[AB 306 – EMPLOYER ACCOMMODATIONS FOR NURSING MOTHERS.](#) FAILED.

[AB 322 – PROHIBITS THE SMOKING OF TOBACCO INSIDE ANY MOTOR VEHICLE IN WHICH A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS IS PRESENT.](#) FAILED.

[SB 178 – PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND BODY MASS INDEX.](#) FAILED. This bill had two main components. The first component required 60 minutes of daily physical education curriculum from kindergarten through 11th grade. The bill was then amended, which removed the physical education requirement and replaced it with 30 minutes of daily physical activity in first through fifth grade. The second component of the bill extended the sunseting legislation requiring body mass index (BMI) data collection in Washoe and Clark counties in a representative sample of 4th, 7th and 10th graders. This bill failed to be passed out of the senate.

[SB 201 – REVISES PROVISIONS GOVERNING SMOKING IN CERTAIN PLACES.](#) FAILED.

This would have revised provisions governing smoking in certain places; defining certain terms relating to smoking; prohibiting the use of electronic smoking devices in certain places; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

[SB 265 – PALLIATIVE CARE.](#) FAILED. Would have created the Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of Life; establishing the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program within the Department of Health and Human Services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

[SB 336 – REVISES PROVISIONS GOVERNING PRESCRIBING, DISPENSING AND ADMINISTERING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES DESIGNED TO END THE LIFE OF A PATIENT.](#) FAILED.

[SB 339 – AUTHORIZES THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF TOBACCO.](#) FAILED. This bill would have authorized Nevada System of Higher Education to impose additional restrictions relating to the use of tobacco on individual campuses.

[SB 402 – OBESITY AS A CHRONIC CONDITION AND BODY MASS INDEX.](#) FAILED. The intent of this bill was to have obesity defined as a chronic condition. Additionally after SB 178 died, the BMI language from that bill was amended into this bill. SB 402 failed to pass out of the assembly and died.

[SB 455 – INCREASES THE EXCISE TAX ON CIGARETTES.](#) FAILED.