ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 60–COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD)

Prefiled November 20, 2024

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to certain behavioral health services. (BDR 39-434)

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 behavioral health; requiring the certification of a natural person who holds himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist; prohibiting a minor from providing or supervising the provision of peer recovery support services in most circumstances; authorizing certain minors to serve as peer recovery support specialist interns; authorizing the imposition of civil penalties for certain violations; prohibiting the employment retention as an independent contractor of a natural person to serve as a certified prevention specialist in a position where the natural person has regular and substantial contact with minors if the natural person has been found to have engaged in certain conduct; requiring a certified prevention specialist to report certain information; requiring a substance use disorder prevention coalition to employ or enter into contracts with certified prevention specialists for certain purposes; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

In general, existing law requires an adult to be certified as a peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor by the Nevada Certification Board or, if that Board ceases issuing such certificates, the Division of





Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services, in order to provide peer recovery support services or supervise the provision of such services, as applicable, for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties. However, existing law authorizes an adult who is not a peer recovery support specialist to provide peer recovery support services as a regular part of his or her job duties while serving as a peer recovery support specialist intern if the Nevada Certification Board or the Division, as applicable, has established conditions authorizing such internships. (NRS 433.631) Section 7 of this bill additionally imposes a general prohibition on a minor providing or supervising the provision of peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties. However, section 7 authorizes a minor who is at least 16 years of age to provide such services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties while serving as a peer recovery support specialist intern if the Nevada Certification Board or the Division, as applicable, has established conditions authorizing such internships. Sections 7 and 13 of this bill authorize the Division to impose a civil penalty or bring an action for an injunction against a minor who: (1) provides peer recovery support services and is not a peer recovery support specialist intern; or (2) supervises the provision of peer recovery support services. Sections 4-6, 14 and 15 of this bill make various conforming changes to: (1) reflect that the provisions of law governing peer recovery support services apply to both adults and minors; and (2) clarify that those provisions of law apply only to natural persons. Section 25 of this bill repeals a definition that is no longer used, and **section 2** of this bill eliminates a reference to that definition.

Sections 3, 7 and 8 of this bill prohibit a natural person from holding himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist unless he or she is certified as such by the Nevada Certification Board or, if that Board ceases to certify certified prevention specialists, peer recovery support specialists or peer recovery support specialist supervisors, the Division. Section 1 of this bill defines "certified prevention specialist" to mean a natural person who: (1) holds such certification; (2) implements evidence-based programs and other evidence-based interventions in schools or communities to prevent or reduce the harms caused by substance misuse, substance use disorder and other behavioral health disorders or address systemic barriers to wellness. Section 2 of this bill makes conforming changes to indicate the applicability of that definition. Sections 7 and 13 authorize the Division to impose a civil penalty or bring an action for an injunction against a natural person who holds himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist without being certified as such. Sections 9-12, 14-17 and 19-23 of this bill make various changes so that certified prevention specialists are treated similarly to peer recovery support specialists and peer recovery support specialist supervisors for purposes related to: (1) regulation, certification and background checks; (2) mandatory reporting of certain crimes and violations; and (3) exemption from the applicability of provisions of law governing certain other professions that provide behavioral health services.

Existing law: (1) provides for the certification of substance use disorder prevention coalitions; (2) requires a certified substance use disorder prevention coalition to perform certain duties relating to the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorder; and (3) requires the Division to collaborate with and utilize certified substance use disorder prevention coalitions as the primary local and regional entities to coordinate programs and strategies for the prevention of substance use disorders in this State. (NRS 458.033) **Section 18** of this bill requires a substance use disorder prevention coalition to employ or enter into contracts with certified prevention specialists as necessary to perform the duties of the coalition.



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

Section 1. Chapter 433 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

"Certified prevention specialist" means a natural person who:

- 1. Plans and implements evidence-based programs and other evidence-based interventions in schools or communities to:
- (a) Prevent substance misuse, substance use disorder and other behavioral health disorders;
- (b) Reduce the harms caused by substance misuse, substance use disorder and other behavioral health disorders; or
- (c) Address systemic barriers to wellness for the purposes of improving public health and reducing the frequency of substance misuse, substance use disorder and other behavioral health disorders; and
- 2. Is authorized under the provisions of NRS 433.631 to hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 433.622 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.622 As used in NRS 433.622 to 433.641, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS [433.623] 433.624 to 433.629, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 433.625 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.625 "Certificate" means a certificate issued by the Division that authorizes the holder to *hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist or* provide or supervise the provision of peer recovery support services, as applicable.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 433.627 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.627 "Peer recovery support specialist" means [an adult] a natural person who is authorized under the provisions of NRS 433.631 to provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties. The term does not include a peer recovery support specialist intern.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 433.628 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.628 "Peer recovery support specialist intern" means [an adult] a natural person who is authorized under the provisions of NRS 433.631 to provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties while the [adult] natural person is acquiring the experience necessary for certification as a peer recovery support specialist.
 - **Sec. 6.** NRS 433.629 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.629 "Peer recovery support specialist supervisor" means [an adult] a natural person who is authorized under the provisions





of NRS 433.631 to supervise the provision of peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties.

- **Sec. 7.** NRS 433.631 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.631 1. Except as authorized by subsection 2, [an adult] a natural person shall not:
- (a) Provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties or hold himself or herself out as authorized to provide peer recovery support services unless he or she [holds]:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) **Holds** a valid certificate as a peer recovery support specialist issued by the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization.
- (b) Supervise the provision of peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties or hold himself or herself out as authorized to supervise the provision of peer recovery support services unless he or she [holds]:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) *Holds* a valid certificate as a peer recovery support specialist supervisor issued by the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization.
- (c) Hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist unless he or she:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) Holds a valid certificate as a certified prevention specialist issued by the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization.
- 2. If the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization establishes conditions governing the provision of peer recovery support services by a *natural* person who is not certified as a peer recovery support specialist while the *natural* person is acquiring the experience necessary for certification as a peer recovery support specialist, [an adult] a natural person who is at least 16 years of age and is not certified as a peer recovery support specialist may:
- (a) Provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties under those conditions; and
- (b) Use the title of "peer recovery support specialist intern" while providing peer recovery support services under those conditions.
- 3. The Division may impose upon [an adult] a natural person who violates this section a civil penalty in an amount prescribed by regulation of the Board.





- **Sec. 8.** NRS 433.631 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.631 1. Except as authorized by subsection 2, [an adult] *a natural person* shall not:
- (a) Provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties or hold himself or herself out as authorized to provide peer recovery support services unless he or she [holds]:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) *Holds* a valid certificate as a peer recovery support specialist issued by the Division.
- (b) Supervise the provision of peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties or hold himself or herself out as authorized to supervise the provision of peer recovery support services unless he or she [holds]:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) *Holds* a valid certificate as a peer recovery support specialist supervisor issued by the Division.
- (c) Hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist unless he or she:
 - (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and
- (2) Holds a valid certificate as a certified prevention specialist issued by the Division.
- 2. The Division may adopt regulations establishing conditions under which [an adult] a natural person who is at least 16 years of age and is not certified as a peer recovery support specialist may:
- (a) Provide peer recovery support services for compensation as a regular part of his or her job duties while acquiring the experience necessary for certification; and
 - (b) Use the title of "peer recovery support specialist intern."
- 3. The Division may impose upon [an adult] a natural person who violates this section a civil penalty in an amount prescribed by regulation of the Board.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 433.632 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.632 1. The Board shall adopt regulations governing *the practice of certified prevention specialists and* the provision of peer recovery support services. The regulations must prescribe:
- (a) The requirements for the issuance and renewal of a certificate as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, which must include, without limitation, required training and experience for *certified prevention specialists*, peer recovery support specialists and peer recovery support specialist supervisors.
- (b) Requirements governing the supervision of peer recovery support specialists by peer recovery support specialist supervisors.





- (c) Procedures for the Division to investigate misconduct by a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor and to impose disciplinary action for such misconduct.
- (d) The forms of disciplinary action that the Division may impose against a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor.
 - 2. The Board may, by regulation, prescribe a fee for:
 - (a) The issuance of a certificate; and
 - (b) The renewal of a certificate.

- 3. Any fee prescribed pursuant to subsection 2 must be calculated to produce the revenue estimated to cover the costs related to the issuance and renewal of certificates, but in no case may the fee for the issuance or renewal of a certificate exceed the actual cost to the Division of issuing or renewing the certificate, as applicable.
- 4. The regulations adopted pursuant to this section may establish exemptions from the provisions of NRS 433.631.
 - **Sec. 10.** NRS 433.635 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.635 1. The Division may issue a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Division an application for such a certificate if the applicant holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license, certificate or other credential as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist.
- 2. An applicant for a certificate by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Division with his or her application:
 - (a) Proof satisfactory to the Division that the applicant:
 - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
- (2) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license, certificate or other credential as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable; and
- (3) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States:
- (b) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct;





- (c) The fee prescribed by the Board in the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 433.632; and
 - (d) Any other information required by the Division.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after the Division receives an application for a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor pursuant to this section, the Division shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Division to consider the application. Unless the Division denies the application for good cause, the Division shall approve the application and issue a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable, to the applicant not later than 45 days after receiving the application.

Sec. 11. NRS 433.636 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 433.636 1. The Division may issue a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Division an application for such a certificate if the applicant:
- (a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license, certificate or other credential as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; and
- (b) Is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the spouse, widow or widower of a veteran.
- 2. An applicant for a certificate by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Division with his or her application:
 - (a) Proof satisfactory to the Division that the applicant:
 - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
- (2) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license, certificate or other credential as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable; and
- (3) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States:
- (b) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct;





- (c) The fee prescribed by the Board in the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 433.632; and
 - (d) Any other information required by the Division.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after the Division receives an application for a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor pursuant to this section, the Division shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Division to consider the application. Unless the Division denies the application for good cause, the Division shall approve the application and issue a certificate by endorsement as a *certified prevention specialist*, peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable, to the applicant not later than 45 days after receiving all the additional information required by the Division to complete the application.
- 4. At any time before making a final decision on an application for a certificate by endorsement pursuant to this section, the Division may grant a provisional certificate authorizing an applicant to *hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist or* practice as a peer recovery support specialist or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as applicable, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
- 5. As used in this section, "veteran" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005.
 - **Sec. 12.** NRS 433.637 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.637 1. In addition to any other requirements set forth in NRS 433.622 to 433.641, inclusive, an applicant for the renewal of a certificate as a *certified prevention specialist*, recovery support specialist or recovery support specialist supervisor must indicate in the application submitted to the Division whether the applicant has a state business license. If the applicant has a state business license, the applicant must include in the application the business identification number assigned by the Secretary of State upon compliance with the provisions of chapter 76 of NRS.
 - 2. A certificate may not be renewed if:
- (a) The applicant fails to submit the information required by subsection 1; or
- (b) The State Controller has informed the Division pursuant to subsection 5 of NRS 353C.1965 that the applicant owes a debt to an agency that has been assigned to the State Controller for collection and the applicant has not:
 - (1) Satisfied the debt;
- (2) Entered into an agreement for the payment of the debt pursuant to NRS 353C.130; or
 - (3) Demonstrated that the debt is not valid.





3. As used in this section:

- (a) "Agency" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 353C.020.
- (b) "Debt" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 353C.040.
- **Sec. 13.** NRS 433.638 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433.638 1. The Division may bring an action in the name of the State of Nevada to enjoin any [adult] natural person from engaging in conduct that violates the provisions of NRS 433.631.

2. It is sufficient in such an action to allege that the defendant did, on a certain date and in a certain place, engage in conduct for which a certificate is required by NRS 433.631 without a valid certificate.

Sec. 14. NRS 433.639 is hereby amended to read as follows:

433.639 1. Not later than 3 days after employing a *natural* person to *serve as a certified prevention specialist or* provide or supervise the provision of peer recovery support services in a position where the *natural* person has regular and substantial contact with minors or retaining a *natural* person as an independent contractor to *serve as a certified prevention specialist or* provide or supervise the provision of peer recovery support services in such a position and every 5 years thereafter, an employer, or person or entity who retained the independent contractor, shall:

- (a) Obtain from the employee or independent contractor written authorization for the release of any information that may be available from the Statewide Central Registry for the Collection of Information Concerning the Abuse or Neglect of a Child established pursuant to NRS 432.100; and
- (b) Complete a child abuse and neglect screening through the Central Registry to determine whether there has been a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect or a violation of NRS 201.540, 201.553, 201.560, 392.4633 or 394.366 made against the *natural* person.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in any regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 4, upon receiving information pursuant to subsection 1 from the Central Registry or from any other source that an employee or independent contractor described in subsection 1 has, within the immediately preceding 5 years, had a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect or a violation of NRS 201.540, 201.553, 201.560, 392.4633 or 394.366 made against him or her, the employer or person or entity who retained the independent contractor shall terminate the employment or contract of the employee or independent contractor, as applicable, after allowing the employee or independent contractor time to correct the information as required pursuant to subsection 3.
- 3. If an employee or independent contractor described in subsection 1 believes that the information provided to the employer





or person or entity who retained the independent contractor pursuant to subsection 2 is incorrect, the employee or independent contractor must inform the employer, person or entity immediately. The employer, person or entity shall give any such employee or independent contractor 30 days to correct the information.

- 4. The Division, in consultation with each agency which provides child welfare services, may establish by regulation a process by which it may review evidence upon request to determine whether an employee or independent contractor described in subsection 1 who has, within the immediately preceding 5 years, had a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect or a violation of NRS 201.540, 201.553, 201.560, 392.4633 or 394.366 made against him or her may continue to *serve as a certified prevention specialist or* provide or supervise the provision of peer recovery support services , *as applicable*, and have regular and substantial contact with minors despite the report. Any such review must be conducted in a manner which does not discriminate against a *natural* person in violation of 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e et seq.
- 5. If a process for review is established pursuant to subsection 4, an employee or independent contractor described in subsection 1 may request such a review in the manner established by the Division. Any determination made by the Division is final for purposes of judicial review.
- 6. During any period in which an employee or independent contractor seeks to correct information pursuant to subsection 3 or requests a review of information pursuant to subsection 5, it is within the discretion of the employer or person or entity who retained the independent contractor whether to allow the employee or independent contractor to continue to work for the employer, person or entity, as applicable, except that the employee or independent contractor shall not have regular and substantial contact with minors without supervision during such a period.
- 7. The Division shall adopt regulations to establish civil penalties to be imposed against any person or entity that fails to comply with the requirements of this section.
- 8. As used in this section, "agency which provides child welfare services" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 424.011.
 - **Sec. 15.** NRS 433.641 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 433.641 1. A person or entity that employs a *natural* person or retains an independent contractor for the purpose of *serving as a certified prevention specialist or* providing or supervising the provision of peer recovery support services in a position where the *natural* person has regular and substantial contact with minors shall maintain records of the information concerning such employees and independent contractors that is collected pursuant to NRS 433.639,





including, without limitation, the written authorization for the release of information from the Statewide Central Registry for the Collection of Information Concerning the Abuse or Neglect of a Child established pursuant to NRS 432.100.

- 2. The records maintained pursuant to subsection 1 must be:
- (a) Maintained for the period that the employee or independent contractor has regular and substantial contact with minors; and
- (b) Made available for inspection by the Division at any reasonable time and copies thereof must be furnished to the Division upon request.

Sec. 16. NRS 200.5093 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 200.5093 1. Any person who is described in subsection 4 and who, in a professional or occupational capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that an older person or vulnerable person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned shall:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, report the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the older person or vulnerable person to:
- (1) The local office of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services;
 - (2) A police department or sheriff's office; or
- (3) A toll-free telephone service designated by the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (b) Make such a report as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours after the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the older person or vulnerable person has been abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned.
- 2. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of the older person or vulnerable person involves an act or omission of the Aging and Disability Services Division, another division of the Department of Health and Human Services or a law enforcement agency, the person shall make the report to an agency other than the one alleged to have committed the act or omission.
- 3. Each agency, after reducing a report to writing, shall forward a copy of the report to the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes.
- 42 4. A report must be made pursuant to subsection 1 by the 43 following persons:
 - (a) Every physician, dentist, dental hygienist, expanded function dental assistant, chiropractic physician, naprapath, optometrist,





1 podiatric physician, medical examiner, resident, intern, professional or practical nurse, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 2 630 or 633 of NRS, anesthesiologist assistant, perfusionist, psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical 4 5 professional counselor, clinical alcohol and drug counselor, alcohol and drug counselor, music therapist, athletic trainer, driver of an ambulance, paramedic, licensed dietitian, holder of a license or a limited license issued under the provisions of chapter 653 of NRS, 9 behavior analyst, assistant behavior analyst, registered behavior technician, certified prevention specialist, as defined in section 1 of 10 this act, peer recovery support specialist, as defined in NRS 11 12 433.627, peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as defined in 13 NRS 433.629, or other person providing medical services licensed 14 or certified to practice in this State, who examines, attends or treats 15 an older person or vulnerable person who appears to have been 16 abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned. 17

- (b) Any personnel of a hospital or similar institution engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an administrator, manager or other person in charge of a hospital or similar institution upon notification of the suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of an older person or vulnerable person by a member of the staff of the hospital.
 - (c) A coroner.

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- (d) Every person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide personal care services in the home.
- (e) Every person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide nursing in the home.
- (f) Every person who operates, who is employed by or who contracts to provide services for an intermediary service organization as defined in NRS 449.4304.
- (g) Any employee of the Department of Health and Human Services, except the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman appointed pursuant to NRS 427A.125 and any of his or her advocates or volunteers where prohibited from making such a report pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 1321.11.
- (h) Any employee of a law enforcement agency or a county's office for protective services or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
- (i) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for older persons or vulnerable persons.
- (j) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding the abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of an





older person or vulnerable person and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.

(k) Every social worker.

- (1) Any person who owns or is employed by a funeral home or mortuary.
- (m) Every person who operates or is employed by a community health worker pool, as defined in NRS 449.0028, or with whom a community health worker pool contracts to provide the services of a community health worker, as defined in NRS 449.0027.
- (n) Every person who is enrolled with the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide doula services to recipients of Medicaid pursuant to NRS 422.27177.
 - 5. A report may be made by any other person.
- 6. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that an older person or vulnerable person has died as a result of abuse, neglect, isolation or abandonment, the person shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report this belief to the appropriate medical examiner or coroner, who shall investigate the cause of death of the older person or vulnerable person and submit to the appropriate local law enforcement agencies, the appropriate prosecuting attorney, the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes his or her written findings. The written findings must include the information required pursuant to the provisions of NRS 200.5094, when possible.
- 7. A division, office or department which receives a report pursuant to this section shall cause the investigation of the report to commence within 3 working days. A copy of the final report of the investigation conducted by a division, office or department, other than the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, must be forwarded within 30 days after the completion of the report to the:
 - (a) Aging and Disability Services Division;
- (b) Repository for Information Concerning Crimes Against Older Persons or Vulnerable Persons created by NRS 179A.450; and
 - (c) Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes.
- 8. If the investigation of a report results in the belief that an older person or vulnerable person is abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned, the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services or the county's office for protective services may provide protective services to the





older person or vulnerable person if the older person or vulnerable person is able and willing to accept them.

9. A person who knowingly and willfully violates any of the

provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

10. As used in this section, "Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes" means the Unit for the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes Against Older Persons or Vulnerable Persons in the Office of the Attorney General created pursuant to NRS 228.265.

Sec. 17. NRS 432B.220 is hereby amended to read as follows: 432B.220 1. Any person who is described in subsection 4 and who, in his or her professional or occupational capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused or neglected shall:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, report the abuse or neglect of the child to an agency which provides child welfare services or to a law enforcement agency; and
- (b) Make such a report as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours after the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the child has been abused or neglected.
- 2. If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the abuse or neglect of the child involves an act or omission of:
- (a) A person directly responsible or serving as a volunteer for or an employee of a public or private home, institution or facility where the child is receiving child care outside of the home for a portion of the day, the person shall make the report to a law enforcement agency.
- (b) An agency which provides child welfare services or a law enforcement agency, the person shall make the report to an agency other than the one alleged to have committed the act or omission, and the investigation of the abuse or neglect of the child must be made by an agency other than the one alleged to have committed the act or omission.
- 3. Any person who is described in paragraph (a) of subsection 4 who delivers or provides medical services to a newborn infant and who, in his or her professional or occupational capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the newborn infant has been affected by a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder or prenatal substance use disorder or has withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal substance exposure shall, as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours after the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the newborn infant is so affected or has such symptoms, notify an agency which provides child welfare services of the condition of the infant and refer each person who is responsible for





the welfare of the infant to an agency which provides child welfare services for appropriate counseling, training or other services. A notification and referral to an agency which provides child welfare services pursuant to this subsection shall not be construed to require prosecution for any illegal action.

- 4. A report must be made pursuant to subsection 1 by the following persons:
- (a) A person providing services licensed or certified in this State pursuant to, without limitation, chapter 450B, 630, 630A, 631, 632, 633, 634, 634A, 634B, 635, 636, 637, 637B, 639, 640, 640A, 640B, 640C, 640D, 640E, 641, 641A, 641B, 641C, 641D or 653 of NRS or practicing as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic in this State under the Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact ratified by NRS 450B.145.
- (b) Any personnel of a medical facility licensed pursuant to chapter 449 of NRS who are engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an administrator, manager or other person in charge of such a medical facility upon notification of suspected abuse or neglect of a child by a member of the staff of the medical facility.
 - (c) A coroner.

- (d) A member of the clergy, practitioner of Christian Science or religious healer, unless the person has acquired the knowledge of the abuse or neglect from the offender during a confession.
- (e) A person employed by a public school or private school and any person who serves as a volunteer at such a school.
- (f) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for children, children's camp or other public or private facility, institution or agency furnishing care to a child.
- (g) Any person licensed pursuant to chapter 424 of NRS to conduct a foster home.
- (h) Any officer or employee of a law enforcement agency or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
 - (i) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 432B.225, an attorney.
- (j) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding abuse or neglect of a child and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.
- (k) Any person who is employed by or serves as a volunteer for a youth shelter. As used in this paragraph, "youth shelter" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 244.427.





- (l) Any adult person who is employed by an entity that provides organized activities for children, including, without limitation, a person who is employed by a school district or public school.
- (m) Any person who is enrolled with the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide doula services to recipients of Medicaid pursuant to NRS 422.27177.
- (n) A certified prevention specialist, as defined in section 1 of this act, peer recovery support specialist, as defined in NRS 433.627, or peer recovery support specialist supervisor, as defined in NRS 433.629.
 - 5. A report may be made by any other person.
- If a person who is required to make a report pursuant to subsection 1 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child has died as a result of abuse or neglect, the person shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report this belief to an agency which provides child welfare services or a law enforcement agency. If such a report is made to a law enforcement agency, the law enforcement agency shall notify an agency which provides child welfare services and the appropriate medical examiner or coroner of the report. If such a report is made to an agency which provides child welfare services, the agency which provides child welfare services shall notify the appropriate medical examiner or coroner of the report. The medical examiner or coroner who is notified of a report pursuant to this subsection shall investigate the report and submit his or her written findings to the appropriate agency which provides child welfare services, the appropriate district attorney and a law enforcement agency. The written findings must include, if obtainable, the information required pursuant to the provisions of subsection 2 of NRS 432B.230.
- 7. The agency, board, bureau, commission, department, division or political subdivision of the State responsible for the licensure, certification or endorsement of a person who is described in subsection 4 and who is required in his or her professional or occupational capacity to be licensed, certified or endorsed in this State shall, at the time of initial licensure, certification or endorsement:
- (a) Inform the person, in writing or by electronic communication, of his or her duty as a mandatory reporter pursuant to this section;
- (b) Obtain a written acknowledgment or electronic record from the person that he or she has been informed of his or her duty pursuant to this section; and





- (c) Maintain a copy of the written acknowledgment or electronic record for as long as the person is licensed, certified or endorsed in this State.
- 8. The employer of a person who is described in subsection 4 and who is not required in his or her professional or occupational capacity to be licensed, certified or endorsed in this State must, upon initial employment of the person:
- (a) Inform the person, in writing or by electronic communication, of his or her duty as a mandatory reporter pursuant to this section;
- (b) Obtain a written acknowledgment or electronic record from the person that he or she has been informed of his or her duty pursuant to this section; and
- (c) Maintain a copy of the written acknowledgment or electronic record for as long as the person is employed by the employer.
- 9. Before a person may serve as a volunteer at a public school or private school, the school must:
- (a) Inform the person, in writing or by electronic communication, of his or her duty as a mandatory reporter pursuant to this section and NRS 392.303;
- (b) Obtain a written acknowledgment or electronic record from the person that he or she has been informed of his or her duty pursuant to this section and NRS 392.303; and
- (c) Maintain a copy of the written acknowledgment or electronic record for as long as the person serves as a volunteer at the school.
- 10. The provisions of subsection 8 do not apply to the employer of a person practicing as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic in this State under the Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact ratified by NRS 450B.145.
 - 11. As used in this section:
- (a) "Private school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 394.103.
- (b) "Public school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385.007.
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 458.033 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 458.033 1. The State Board of Health shall adopt regulations:
- (a) Providing for the certification of substance use disorder prevention coalitions; and
- (b) Establishing requirements governing the membership of and geographic region served by substance use disorder prevention coalitions. The regulations adopted pursuant to this paragraph must align with nationally recognized standards for substance use disorder prevention coalitions and must provide that a geographic





region may be served by more than one substance use disorder prevention coalition.

- 2. A certified substance use disorder prevention coalition shall:
- (a) Advise the Department of Health and Human Services and the Division concerning:
- (1) The needs of adults and children in the geographic region served by the coalition concerning the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders in the geographic region;
- (2) Any progress, problems or plans relating to the provision of services for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders and methods for improving the provision of such services in the geographic region served by the coalition;
- (3) Identified gaps in services for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders and recommendations for addressing those gaps; and
- (4) Priorities for allocating resources to support and develop services for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders in the geographic region served by the coalition.
- (b) Convene interested persons and entities to promote the use of evidence-based strategies to address needs concerning services for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders and improve such services in the geographic region served by the coalition.
- (c) Coordinate and share information with other certified substance use disorder prevention coalitions to provide recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Division concerning services for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders.
- (d) Implement, in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Division, other certified substance use disorder prevention coalitions and other interested persons and entities, statewide efforts for the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders.
- (e) Coordinate with persons and entities in this State who provide services related to the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders to increase the awareness of such services and reduce duplication of efforts.
- (f) In consultation with other persons and entities in this State who provide services related to the prevention of substance use disorders, submit an annual report to the regional behavioral health policy board for the geographic region served by the substance use disorder prevention coalition. The report must include, without limitation:





- (1) Identification of the specific needs of the geographic region served by the coalition concerning the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders;
- (2) A description of methods that the coalition uses to collect and analyze data concerning:
- (I) Substance misuse and substance use disorders in the geographic region served by the coalition; and
- (II) Gaps in services related to the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders and the need for additional services in that region;
- (3) The strategies used by the coalition and the results of those strategies;
- (4) The goals of the coalition for the immediately preceding year and the degree to which the coalition achieved those goals; and
- (5) The goals of the coalition for the immediately following year and the long-term goals of the coalition.
- (g) Employ or enter into contracts with certified prevention specialists as necessary to perform or facilitate the activities described in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.
- 3. The Division shall collaborate with and utilize certified substance use disorder prevention coalitions as the primary local and regional entities to coordinate programs and strategies for the prevention of substance use disorders in this State.
 - 4. As used in this section:
- (a) "Behavioral health region" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 433.426.
- (b) "Certified prevention specialist" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.
- (c) "Substance use disorder prevention coalition" means a coalition of persons and entities who possess knowledge and experience related to the prevention of substance misuse and substance use disorders in a region of this State.
 - **Sec. 19.** NRS 632.472 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 632.472 1. The following persons shall report in writing to the Executive Director of the Board any conduct of a licensee or holder of a certificate which constitutes a violation of the provisions of this chapter:
- (a) Any physician, dentist, dental hygienist, expanded function dental assistant, naprapath, chiropractic physician, optometrist, podiatric physician, medical examiner, resident, intern, professional or practical nurse, nursing assistant, medication aide certified, perfusionist, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS, anesthesiologist assistant, psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional counselor, alcohol or drug counselor, *certified prevention specialist*, peer





recovery support specialist, peer recovery support specialist supervisor, music therapist, holder of a license or limited license issued pursuant to chapter 653 of NRS, driver of an ambulance, paramedic or other person providing medical services licensed or certified to practice in this State.

- (b) Any personnel of a medical facility or facility for the dependent engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons or an administrator, manager or other person in charge of a medical facility or facility for the dependent upon notification by a member of the staff of the facility.
 - (c) A coroner.

- (d) Any person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide personal care services in the home.
- (e) Any person who operates, who is employed by or who contracts to provide services for an intermediary service organization as defined in NRS 449.4304.
- (f) Any person who maintains or is employed by an agency to provide nursing in the home.
- (g) Any employee of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (h) Any employee of a law enforcement agency or a county's office for protective services or an adult or juvenile probation officer.
- (i) Any person who maintains or is employed by a facility or establishment that provides care for older persons.
- (j) Any person who maintains, is employed by or serves as a volunteer for an agency or service which advises persons regarding the abuse, neglect or exploitation of an older person and refers them to persons and agencies where their requests and needs can be met.
 - (k) Any social worker.
- (l) Any person who operates or is employed by a community health worker pool or with whom a community health worker pool contracts to provide the services of a community health worker, as defined in NRS 449.0027.
- 2. Every physician who, as a member of the staff of a medical facility or facility for the dependent, has reason to believe that a nursing assistant or medication aide certified has engaged in conduct which constitutes grounds for the denial, suspension or revocation of a certificate shall notify the superintendent, manager or other person in charge of the facility. The superintendent, manager or other person in charge shall make a report as required in subsection 1.
 - 3. A report may be filed by any other person.
- 4. Any person who in good faith reports any violation of the provisions of this chapter to the Executive Director of the Board





pursuant to this section is immune from civil liability for reporting the violation.

5. As used in this section:

- (a) "Agency to provide personal care services in the home" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0021.
- (b) "Certified prevention specialist" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.
- (c) "Community health worker pool" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0028.
- (d) "Peer recovery support specialist" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 433.627.
- [(d)] (e) "Peer recovery support specialist supervisor" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 433.629.

Sec. 20. NRS 641.029 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641.029 The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

- 1. A physician who is licensed to practice in this State;
- 2. A person who is licensed to practice dentistry in this State;
- 3. A person who is licensed as a marriage and family therapist or marriage and family therapist intern pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS;
- 4. A person who is licensed as a clinical professional counselor or clinical professional counselor intern pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS;
- 5. A person who is licensed to engage in social work pursuant to chapter 641B of NRS;
- 6. A person who is licensed as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant pursuant to chapter 640A of NRS;
- 7. A person who is licensed as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor, licensed or certified as an alcohol and drug counselor or certified as an alcohol and drug counselor intern, a clinical alcohol and drug counselor intern, a problem gambling counselor or a problem gambling counselor intern, pursuant to chapter 641C of NRS;
- 8. A person who serves as a certified prevention specialist or provides or supervises the provision of peer recovery support services in accordance with the provisions of NRS 433.622 to 433.641, inclusive [;], and section 1 of this act.
- 9. A person who is licensed as a behavior analyst or an assistant behavior analyst or registered as a registered behavior technician pursuant to chapter 641D of NRS, while engaged in the practice of applied behavior analysis as defined in NRS 641D.080; or
 - 10. Any member of the clergy,
- if such a person does not commit an act described in NRS 641.440 or represent himself or herself as a psychologist.





- **Sec. 21.** NRS 641B.040 is hereby amended to read as follows: 641B.040 The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:
 - 1. A physician who is licensed to practice in this State;
 - 2. A nurse who is licensed to practice in this State;
- 3. A person who is licensed as a psychologist pursuant to chapter 641 of NRS or authorized to practice psychology in this State pursuant to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact enacted in NRS 641.227;
- 4. A person who is licensed as a marriage and family therapist or marriage and family therapist intern pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS:
- 5. A person who is licensed as a clinical professional counselor or clinical professional counselor intern pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS:
- 6. A person who is licensed as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant pursuant to chapter 640A of NRS;
- 7. A person who is licensed as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor, licensed or certified as an alcohol and drug counselor or certified as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor intern, an alcohol and drug counselor intern, a problem gambling counselor or a problem gambling counselor intern, pursuant to chapter 641C of NRS;
- 8. A person who *serves as a certified prevention specialist or* provides or supervises the provision of peer recovery support services in accordance with NRS 433.622 to 433.641, inclusive [;], *and section 1 of this act.*
 - 9. Any member of the clergy;
 - 10. A county welfare director;
- 11. Any person who may engage in social work or clinical social work in his or her regular governmental employment but does not hold himself or herself out to the public as a social worker; or
- 12. A student of social work and any other person preparing for the profession of social work under the supervision of a qualified social worker in a training institution or facility recognized by the Board, unless the student or other person has been issued a provisional license pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 641B.275. Such a student must be designated by the title "student of social work" or "trainee in social work," or any other title which clearly indicates the student's training status.
 - **Sec. 22.** NRS 641C.130 is hereby amended to read as follows: 641C.130 The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:
- 1. A physician who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 630 or 633 of NRS;
 - 2. A nurse who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 632 of NRS and is authorized by the State Board of Nursing to





engage in the practice of counseling persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders or the practice of counseling persons with an addictive disorder related to gambling;

- 3. A psychologist who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 641 of NRS or authorized to practice psychology in this State pursuant to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact enacted in NRS 641.227;
- 4. A clinical professional counselor or clinical professional counselor intern who is licensed pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS;
- 5. A marriage and family therapist or marriage and family therapist intern who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 641A of NRS and is authorized by the Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors to engage in the practice of counseling persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders or the practice of counseling persons with an addictive disorder related to gambling;
 - 6. A person who is:
 - (a) Licensed as:

- (1) A clinical social worker pursuant to the provisions of chapter 641B of NRS; or
- (2) A master social worker or an independent social worker pursuant to the provisions of chapter 641B of NRS and is engaging in clinical social work as part of an internship program approved by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers; and
- (b) Authorized by the Board of Examiners for Social Workers to engage in the practice of counseling persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders or the practice of counseling persons with an addictive disorder related to gambling; or
- 7. A person who *serves as a certified prevention specialist or* provides or supervises the provision of peer recovery support services in accordance with NRS 433.622 to 433.641, inclusive [...], *and section 1 of this act.*
- **Sec. 23.** Section 37 of chapter 444, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 2836, is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - Sec. 37. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 18.5, 19, 20 and 32 of this act become effective on July 1, 2021.
 - 3. Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, 5 to 8, inclusive, 15 to 17, inclusive, 20.3 to 31, inclusive, and 33 to 36, inclusive, of this act become effective:
 - (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and





(b) On January 1, 2022, for all other purposes.

- 4. Sections 4, 9 to 14, inclusive, 18 and 31.5 of this act become effective on the date on which the Nevada Certification Board, or its successor organization, ceases certifying *certified prevention specialists*, peer recovery support specialists or peer recovery support specialist supervisors.
- 5. Sections 10 and 11 of this act expire by limitation on the date on which the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 666 requiring each state to establish procedures under which the state has authority to withhold or suspend, or to restrict the use of professional, occupational and recreational licenses of persons who:
- (a) Have failed to comply with the subpoena or warrant relating to a proceeding to determine the paternity of a child or to establish or enforce an obligation for the support of a child: or
- (b) Are in arrears in the payment for the support of one or more children,
- → are repealed by the Congress of the United States.
- **Sec. 24.** 1. Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, any natural person who is less than 18 years of age, will be at least 16 years of age on January 1, 2026, and provides peer recovery support services as a regular part of his or her job duties on or before July 1, 2025, may continue to do so under conditions other than those specified by the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization as described in paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 433.631, as amended by section 7 of this act, until December 31, 2025. Such a natural person who remains less than 18 years of age must comply with those conditions on or after January 1, 2026.
- 2. Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, a natural person who holds a valid certification as a certified prevention specialist issued by the Nevada Certification Board or its successor organization on the date on which that organization ceases certifying certified prevention specialists may hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist without being certified by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services until 6 months after the date on which the Division begins certifying certified prevention specialists pursuant to the regulations adopted by the State Board of Health pursuant to NRS 433.632, as amended by section 9 of this act. To hold himself or herself out as a certified prevention specialist after that date, the natural person must obtain a certificate from the





Division as required by NRS 433.631, as amended by section 8 of this act.

- 3. As used in this section, "certified prevention specialist" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.
 - **Sec. 25.** NRS 433.623 is hereby repealed.

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- **Sec. 26.** 1. This section and sections 1, 2, 4 to 7, inclusive, and 13 to 25, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2025.
- 2. Sections 3 and 8 to 12, inclusive, of this act become effective on the date on which the Nevada Certification Board, or its successor organization, ceases certifying certified prevention specialists, peer recovery support specialists or peer recovery support specialist supervisors.
- 3. Sections 10 and 11 of this act expire by limitation on the date on which the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 666 requiring each state to establish procedures under which the state has authority to withhold or suspend, or to restrict the use of professional, occupational and recreational licenses of persons who:
- (a) Have failed to comply with the subpoena or warrant relating to a proceeding to determine the paternity of a child or to establish or enforce an obligation for the support of a child; or
- (b) Are in arrears in the payment for the support of one or more children,
- → are repealed by the Congress of the United States.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

433.623 "Adult" defined. "Adult" means a natural person who is 18 years of age or older.





