SENATE BILL NO. 56–COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 20, 2024

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to driving a vehicle or operating a vessel under the influence. (BDR 43-243)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City Jail or Detention Facility. 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 public safety; establishing requirements for the reporting by law enforcement agencies of certain information concerning violations of the prohibition against driving or being in actual physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or certain controlled substances; revising provisions governing the measurement of the concentration of alcohol in the blood or breath of a person who was driving, operating or in actual physical control of certain vehicles or vessels; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law prohibits a person from driving or being in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway or certain other premises while under the influence of alcohol or certain controlled substances. (NRS 484C.110, 484C.120, 484C.130, 484C.430) Section 1 of this bill requires: (1) the Nevada Highway Patrol to establish a format to be used by law enforcement agencies in this State to electronically submit to the Office of Traffic Safety of the Department of Public Safety information concerning violations of this prohibition; and (2) law enforcement agencies in this State, to the extent that resources are available, to submit electronically to the Office of Traffic Safety, in that format, information concerning such violations.





11 Under existing law, a person commits the offense of driving or being in actual 12 physical control of a vehicle on a highway or certain other premises, or operating or 13 being in actual physical control of a vessel under way on the waters of this State, while under the influence of alcohol, if the person is found by measurement within 14 15 2 hours after driving, operating or being in actual physical control of the vehicle or 16 vessel to have a concentration of alcohol in his or her blood or breath which 17 exceeds certain levels. (NRS 484C.110, 484C.120, 484C.130, 484C.430, 488.410, 18 488.420, 488.425) Sections 2-8 of this bill increase this period from 2 hours to 3 19 hours.

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

Section 1. Chapter 484C of NRS is hereby amended by adding 1 2 thereto a new section to read as follows: 3 The Nevada Highway Patrol shall establish a format for 1. 4 use by each law enforcement agency in this State to electronically 5 submit to the Office of Traffic Safety of the Department of Public Safety information concerning violations of NRS 484C.110, 6 7 484C.120, 484C.130 and 484C.430. 8 To the extent that resources are available, each law 2. 9 enforcement agency in this State shall submit electronically to the Office of Traffic Safety of the Department of Public Safety, in the 10 11 format established pursuant to subsection 1, any information requested by the Office of Traffic Safety concerning violations of 12 13 NRS 484C.110, 484C.120, 484C.130 and 484C.430. 14 **Sec. 2.** NRS 484C.110 is hereby amended to read as follows: 15 484C.110 1. It is unlawful for any person who: (a) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor: 16 17 (b) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her 18 blood or breath; or 19 (c) Is found by measurement within $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ hours after driving or 20 being in actual physical control of a vehicle to have a concentration 21 of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath, 22 \rightarrow to drive or be in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway 23 or on premises to which the public has access. 24 2. It is unlawful for any person who: 25 (a) Is under the influence of a controlled substance; 26 (b) Is under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a 27 controlled substance; or 28 (c) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical, 29 poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely 30 driving or exercising actual physical control of a vehicle, 31 → to drive or be in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway 32 33 or on premises to which the public has access. The fact that any

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person charged with a violation of this subsection is or has been
 entitled to use that drug under the laws of this State is not a defense
 against any charge of violating this subsection.

4 3. It is unlawful for any person to drive or be in actual physical 5 control of a vehicle on a highway or on premises to which the public 6 has access with an amount of any of the following prohibited 7 substances in his or her blood or urine that is equal to or greater 8 than:

10 11 12 13	Prohibited substance	Urine Nanograms per milliliter	Blood Nanograms per milliliter
13	(a) Amphetamine	500	100
15	(b) Cocaine	150	50
16	(c) Cocaine metabolite	150	50
17	(d) Heroin	2,000	50
18	(e) Heroin metabolite:		
19	(1) Morphine	2,000	50
20	(2) 6-monoacetyl morph	ine 10	10
21	(f) Lysergic acid diethylami	de 25	10
22	(g) Methamphetamine	500	100
23	(h) Phencyclidine	25	10

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4. For any violation that is punishable pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 484C.400, it is unlawful for any person to drive or be in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway or on premises to which the public has access with an amount of any of the following prohibited substances in his or her blood that is equal to or greater than:

31 32 33 34 35		Blood Nanograms er milliliter
36 37	(a) Marijuana (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol)(b) Marijuana metabolite (11-OH-tetrahydrocannabin)	2 5

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5. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the evidence, it is an affirmative defense under paragraph (c) of subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after driving or being in actual physical control of the vehicle, and before his or her blood or breath was tested, to cause the defendant to have a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath. A defendant who intends to offer this





defense at a trial or preliminary hearing must, not less than 14 days
 before the trial or hearing or at such other time as the court may
 direct, file and serve on the prosecuting attorney a written notice of
 that intent.

6. A person who violates any provision of this section may be subject to any additional penalty set forth in NRS 484B.130 or 484B.135.

Sec. 3. NRS 484C.120 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 484C.120 1. It is unlawful for any person who:

10 (a) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor;

(b) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.04 or more but less than0.08 in his or her blood or breath; or

13 (c) Is found by measurement within [2] 3 hours after driving or 14 being in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle to 15 have a concentration of alcohol of 0.04 or more but less than 0.08 in 16 his or her blood or breath,

17 \rightarrow to drive or be in actual physical control of a commercial motor 18 vehicle on a highway or on premises to which the public has access.

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2. It is unlawful for any person who:(a) Is under the influence of a controlled substance;

(b) Is under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and acontrolled substance; or

(c) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical,
poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any
of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely
driving or exercising actual physical control of a commercial motor
vehicle,

to drive or be in actual physical control of a commercial motor
vehicle on a highway or on premises to which the public has access.
The fact that any person charged with a violation of this subsection
is or has been entitled to use that drug under the laws of this State is
not a defense against any charge of violating this subsection.

33 3. It is unlawful for any person to drive or be in actual physical 34 control of a commercial motor vehicle on a highway or on premises 35 to which the public has access with any prohibited substance in his 36 or her blood or urine. As used in this subsection, "prohibited 37 substance" means any substance described in 21 C.F.R. § 1308.11.

38 4. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the 39 evidence, it is an affirmative defense under paragraph (c) of 40 subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of 41 alcohol after driving or being in actual physical control of the 42 commercial motor vehicle, and before his or her blood or breath was 43 tested, to cause the defendant to have a concentration of alcohol of 44 0.04 or more in his or her blood or breath. A defendant who intends 45 to offer this defense at a trial or preliminary hearing must, not less





than 14 days before the trial or hearing or at such other time as the
court may direct, file and serve on the prosecuting attorney a written
notice of that intent.

4 5. A person who violates any provision of this section may be
5 subject to any additional penalty set forth in NRS 483.939,
6 484B.130 or 484B.135.

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6. As used in this section:

8 (a) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or 9 combination of motor vehicles used in commerce to transport 10 passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

11 (1) Has a gross combination weight rating of 26,001 or more 12 pounds which includes a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight 13 rating of more than 10,000 pounds;

14 (2) Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more 15 pounds;

16 (3) Is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including 17 the driver; or

(4) Regardless of size, is used in the transportation of
materials which are considered to be hazardous for the purposes of
the federal Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. §§
5101 et seq., and for which the display of identifying placards is
required pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 172, Subpart F.

(b) The phrase "concentration of alcohol of 0.04 or more but
less than 0.08 in his or her blood or breath" means 0.04 gram or
more but less than 0.08 gram of alcohol per 100 milliliters of the
blood of a person or per 210 liters of his or her breath.

Sec. 4. NRS 484C.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 484C.130 1. A person commits vehicular homicide if the 29 person:

30 (a) Drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle on or off 31 the highways of this State and:

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(1) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor;

33 (2) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or
34 her blood or breath;

35 (3) Is found by measurement within [2] 3 hours after driving 36 or being in actual physical control of a vehicle to have a 37 concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or 38 breath;

39 (4) Is under the influence of a controlled substance or is
40 under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a controlled
41 substance;

42 (5) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical,
43 poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any
44 of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely
45 driving or exercising actual physical control of a vehicle; or





(6) Has a prohibited substance in his or her blood or urine, as 1 2 applicable, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the amount 3 set forth in subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 484C.110;

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(b) Proximately causes the death of another person while driving 5 or in actual physical control of a vehicle on or off the highways of 6 this State: and

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(c) Has previously been convicted of at least three offenses.

8 2. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the 9 evidence, it is an affirmative defense under subparagraph (3) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a 10 sufficient quantity of alcohol after driving or being in actual 11 12 physical control of the vehicle, and before his or her blood or breath 13 was tested, to cause the defendant to have a concentration of alcohol 14 of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath. A defendant who 15 intends to offer this defense at a trial or preliminary hearing must, 16 not less than 14 days before the trial or hearing or at such other time as the court may direct, file and serve on the prosecuting attorney a 17 written notice of that intent. 18

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3. As used in this section, "offense" means:

(a) A violation of NRS 484C.110, 484C.120 or 484C.430;

21 (b) A homicide resulting from driving or being in actual 22 physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of 23 intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance or resulting from any 24 other conduct prohibited by this section or NRS 484C.110 or 25 484C.430; or

26 (c) A violation of a law of any other jurisdiction that prohibits 27 the same or similar conduct as set forth in paragraph (a) or (b).

28 **Sec. 5.** NRS 484C.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 484C.430 1. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to 30 NRS 484C.440, a person who:

(a) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor;

32 (b) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her 33 blood or breath:

(c) Is found by measurement within $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ hours after driving or 34 35 being in actual physical control of a vehicle to have a concentration 36 of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath:

37 (d) Is under the influence of a controlled substance or is under 38 the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a controlled 39 substance:

40 (e) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical, 41 poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any 42 of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely 43 driving or exercising actual physical control of a vehicle; or





1 (f) Has a prohibited substance in his or her blood or urine, as 2 applicable, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the amount 3 set forth in subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 484C.110,

4 \rightarrow and does any act or neglects any duty imposed by law while 5 driving or in actual physical control of any vehicle on or off the highways of this State, if the act or neglect of duty proximately 6 7 causes the death of, or substantial bodily harm to, another person, is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment 8 9 in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 2 years and a maximum term of not more than 20 years and must be further 10 punished by a fine of not less than \$2,000 nor more than \$5,000. A 11 12 person so imprisoned must, insofar as practicable, be segregated 13 from offenders whose crimes were violent and, insofar as 14 practicable, be assigned to an institution or facility of minimum 15 security.

16 2. A prosecuting attorney shall not dismiss a charge of 17 violating the provisions of subsection 1 in exchange for a plea of 18 guilty, guilty but mentally ill or nolo contendere to a lesser charge or 19 for any other reason unless the attorney knows or it is obvious that 20 the charge is not supported by probable cause or cannot be proved at 21 the time of trial. A sentence imposed pursuant to subsection 1 may 22 not be suspended nor may probation be granted.

23 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, if 24 consumption is proven by a preponderance of the evidence, it is an 25 affirmative defense under paragraph (c) of subsection 1 that the 26 defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after driving or 27 being in actual physical control of the vehicle, and before his or her 28 blood or breath was tested, to cause the defendant to have a 29 concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or 30 breath. A defendant who intends to offer this defense at a trial or 31 preliminary hearing must, not less than 14 days before the trial 32 or hearing or at such other time as the court may direct, file and 33 serve on the prosecuting attorney a written notice of that intent.

4. If the defendant is also charged with violating the provisions of NRS 484E.010, 484E.020 or 484E.030, the defendant may not offer the affirmative defense set forth in subsection 3.

5. If the defendant was transporting a person who is less than 15 years of age in the motor vehicle at the time of the violation, the court shall consider that fact as an aggravating factor in determining the sentence of the defendant.

41 Sec. 6. NRS 488.410 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 488.410 1. It is unlawful for any person who:

43 (a) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor;

(b) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or herblood or breath; or





1 (c) Is found by measurement within [2] 3 hours after operating 2 or being in actual physical control of a power-driven vessel or 3 sailing vessel under way to have a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 4 or more in his or her blood or breath,

5 → to operate or be in actual physical control of a power-driven
6 vessel or sailing vessel under way on the waters of this State.
7 2. It is unlawful for any person who:

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(a) Is under the influence of a controlled substance:

9 (b) Is under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a 10 controlled substance; or

(c) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical,
poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any
of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely
operating or exercising actual physical control of a power-driven
vessel or sailing vessel under way,

16 \rightarrow to operate or be in actual physical control of a power-driven 17 vessel or sailing vessel under way on the waters of this State.

3. It is unlawful for any person to operate or be in actual physical control of a power-driven vessel or sailing vessel under way on the waters of this State with an amount of any of the following prohibited substances in his or her blood or urine that is equal to or greater than:

- 24 Urine Blood 25 Nanograms per Nanograms per 26 Prohibited substance milliliter milliliter 27 28 (a) Amphetamine 500 10029 (b) Cocaine 150 50 30 (c) Cocaine metabolite 150 50 (d) Heroin 2,000 50 31 (e) Heroin metabolite: 32 (1) Morphine 50 33 2.000(2) 6-monoacetyl morphine 10 34 10 25 35 (f) Lysergic acid diethylamide 10 36 (g) Methamphetamine 500 100 25 37 (h) Phencyclidine 10
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4. For any violation that is punishable pursuant to NRS 40 488.427, it is unlawful for any person to operate or be in actual 41 physical control of a power-driven vessel or sailing vessel under 42 way on the waters of this State with an amount of any of the 43 following prohibited substances in his or her blood that is equal to 44 or greater than:





1 Blood 2 Nanograms per 3 Prohibited substance milliliter 4 5 (a) Marijuana (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) 2 5 6 (b) Marijuana metabolite (11-OH-tetrahydrocannabinol) 7 8 5. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the 9 evidence, it is an affirmative defense under paragraph (c) of subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of 10 alcohol after operating or being in actual physical control of the 11 12 power-driven vessel or sailing vessel, as applicable, under way and 13 before his or her blood was tested, to cause the defendant to have a 14 concentration of 0.08 or more of alcohol in his or her blood or 15 breath. A defendant who intends to offer this defense at a trial or 16 preliminary hearing must, not less than 14 days before the trial 17 or hearing or at such other time as the court may direct, file and serve on the prosecuting attorney a written notice of that intent. 18 19 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 488.427, a person who 6. 20 violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. 21 Sec. 7. NRS 488.420 is hereby amended to read as follows: 22 488.420 1. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to 23 NRS 488.425, a person who: 24 (a) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor: 25 (b) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her 26 blood or breath: 27 (c) Is found by measurement within $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ hours after operating 28 or being in actual physical control of a power-driven vessel or 29 sailing vessel under way to have a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 30 or more in his or her blood or breath: 31 (d) Is under the influence of a controlled substance or is under 32 the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a controlled 33 substance: (e) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical, 34 35 poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any 36 of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely 37 operating or being in actual physical control of a power-driven 38 vessel or sailing vessel under way; or 39 (f) Has a prohibited substance in his or her blood or urine, as 40 applicable, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the amount set forth in subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 488.410, 41 42 → and does any act or neglects any duty imposed by law while 43 operating or being in actual physical control of any power-driven 44 vessel or sailing vessel under way, if the act or neglect of duty 45 proximately causes the death of, or substantial bodily harm to,





1 another person, is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of 2 3 not less than 2 years and a maximum term of not more than 20 years 4 and shall be further punished by a fine of not less than \$2,000 nor 5 more than \$5,000. A person so imprisoned must, insofar as 6 practicable, be segregated from offenders whose crimes were violent and, insofar as practicable, be assigned to an institution or facility of 7 8 minimum security.

9 A prosecuting attorney shall not dismiss a charge of 2. violating the provisions of subsection 1 in exchange for a plea of 10 guilty, guilty but mentally ill or nolo contendere to a lesser charge or 11 12 for any other reason unless the prosecuting attorney knows or it is 13 obvious that the charge is not supported by probable cause or cannot 14 be proved at the time of trial. A sentence imposed pursuant to 15 subsection 1 must not be suspended, and probation must not be 16 granted.

17 3. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the 18 evidence, it is an affirmative defense under paragraph (c) of 19 subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of 20 alcohol after operating or being in actual physical control of the 21 power-driven vessel or sailing vessel, as applicable, under way and 22 before his or her blood was tested, to cause the defendant to have a 23 concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or 24 breath. A defendant who intends to offer this defense at a trial or 25 preliminary hearing must, not less than 14 days before the trial 26 or hearing or at such other time as the court may direct, file and 27 serve on the prosecuting attorney a written notice of that intent.

4. If a person less than 15 years of age was in the vessel at the time of the defendant's violation, the court shall consider that fact as an aggravating factor in determining the sentence of the defendant.

Sec. 8. NRS 488.425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 488.425 1. A person commits homicide by vessel if the 33 person:

(a) Operates or is in actual physical control of a power-driven
 vessel or sailing vessel under way on the waters of this State and:

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(1) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor;

37 (2) Has a concentration of alcohol of 0.08 or more in his or
38 her blood or breath;

39 (3) Is found by measurement within [2] 3 hours after
40 operating or being in actual physical control of a power-driven
41 vessel or sailing vessel under way to have a concentration of alcohol
42 of 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath;

43 (4) Is under the influence of a controlled substance or is
44 under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a controlled
45 substance;





1 (5) Inhales, ingests, applies or otherwise uses any chemical, 2 poison or organic solvent, or any compound or combination of any 3 of these, to a degree which renders the person incapable of safely 4 operating or exercising actual physical control of a power-driven 5 vessel or sailing vessel under way; or

6 (6) Has a prohibited substance in his or her blood or urine, as 7 applicable, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the amount 8 set forth in subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 488.410;

9 (b) Proximately causes the death of another person while 10 operating or in actual physical control of a power-driven vessel or 11 sailing vessel under way; and

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(c) Has previously been convicted of at least three offenses.

13 2. A person who commits homicide by vessel is guilty of a 14 category A felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the 15 state prison:

16 (a) For life with the possibility of parole, with eligibility for 17 parole beginning when a minimum of 10 years has been served; or

18 (b) For a definite term of 25 years, with eligibility for parole 19 beginning when a minimum of 10 years has been served.

3. A person imprisoned pursuant to subsection 2 must, insofar as practicable, be segregated from offenders whose crimes were violent and, insofar as practicable, be assigned to an institution or facility of minimum security.

4. A prosecuting attorney shall not dismiss a charge of homicide by vessel in exchange for a plea of guilty, guilty but mentally ill or nolo contendere to a lesser charge or for any other reason unless the prosecuting attorney knows or it is obvious that the charge is not supported by probable cause or cannot be proved at the time of trial. A sentence imposed pursuant to subsection 2 may not be suspended nor may probation be granted.

31 5. If consumption is proven by a preponderance of the 32 evidence, it is an affirmative defense under subparagraph (3) of 33 paragraph (a) of subsection 1 that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after operating or being in actual 34 35 physical control of the power-driven vessel or sailing vessel, as 36 applicable, under way and before his or her blood or breath was 37 tested, to cause the defendant to have a concentration of alcohol of 38 0.08 or more in his or her blood or breath. A defendant who intends 39 to offer this defense at a trial or preliminary hearing must, not less 40 than 14 days before the trial or hearing or at such other time as the 41 court may direct, file and serve on the prosecuting attorney a written 42 notice of that intent.

6. If the defendant was transporting a person who is less than
15 years of age in the power-driven vessel or sailing vessel, as
applicable, under way at the time of the violation, the court shall





1 consider that fact as an aggravating factor in determining the 2 sentence of the defendant.

- 3 7. As used in this section, "offense" means:
- 4 (a) A violation of NRS 488.410 or 488.420;

5 (b) A homicide resulting from operating or being in actual 6 physical control of a power-driven vessel or sailing vessel under 7 way while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled 8 substance or resulting from any other conduct prohibited by this 9 section or NRS 488.410 or 488.420; or

10 (c) A violation of a law of any other jurisdiction that prohibits 11 the same or similar conduct as set forth in paragraph (a) or (b).

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