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FIRST REPRINT

A.B. 366

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 366—ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES

MARCH 22, 2021

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR SPEARMAN

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing mental health records.  
(BDR 54-456)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to mental health; exempting recordings of certain training activities from requirements concerning the retention, maintenance and disclosure of health care records under certain circumstances; requiring the destruction of such a recording after a certain period of time; prescribing certain additional requirements governing such a recording; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law imposes various requirements concerning the retention,  
2 maintenance and disclosure of health care records, including the patient or client  
3 records of a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical professional  
4 counselor, social worker, independent social worker, clinical social worker, clinical  
5 alcohol and drug counselor, alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling  
6 counselor. (NRS 629.051-629.069) This bill provides that a program of education  
7 for such mental health professionals approved by the applicable licensing board, a  
8 mental health professional or a person receiving training for mental health  
9 professionals is not required to retain a recording of the provision of services by  
10 such a mental health professional to a patient if: (1) the recording is used for a  
11 training activity; (2) the patient has provided informed written consent to the use of  
12 the recording in the training activity; (3) destroying the recording does not result in  
13 the maintenance of incomplete patient records; and (4) the recording is destroyed  
14 after a period of time prescribed by the licensing board responsible for regulating  
15 the mental health professional. This bill requires such a recording to meet certain  
16 federal requirements designed to prevent the reproduction, copying or theft of the  
17 recording. This bill also prohibits the inclusion of personally identifiable



18 information concerning a patient or client unless the patient or client, as applicable,  
19 has provided specific informed written consent to the inclusion of that information  
20 in the recording.

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

1       **Section 1.** NRS 629.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2       629.021 “Health care records” means any reports, notes,  
3 orders, photographs, X-rays or other recorded data or information  
4 whether maintained in written, electronic or other form which is  
5 received or produced by a provider of health care, or any person  
6 employed by a provider of health care, and contains information  
7 relating to the medical history, examination, diagnosis or treatment  
8 of the patient. *The term does not include a recording used for a*  
9 *training activity by a program of education for mental health*  
10 *professionals, a mental health professional or a person receiving*  
11 *training for mental health professionals that is not required to be*  
12 *retained pursuant to section 2, 3, 4 or 5 of this act.*

13       **Sec. 2.** Chapter 641 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
14 thereto a new section to read as follows:

15       1. *A program of education for mental health professionals*  
16 *approved by the Board, a mental health professional or a person*  
17 *receiving training for mental health professionals is not required*  
18 *to retain a recording of the provision of mental health services by*  
19 *a psychologist to a patient that meets the requirements of*  
20 *subsection 2 if:*

21       (a) *The recording is used for a training activity that is part of a*  
22 *program of education for mental health professionals approved by*  
23 *the Board;*

24       (b) *The patient has provided informed consent in writing on a*  
25 *form that meets the requirements prescribed by the Board*  
26 *pursuant to subsection 3 to the use of the recording in the training*  
27 *activity;*

28       (c) *Destroying the recording does not result in noncompliance*  
29 *with the obligations described in subsection 4; and*

30       (d) *The recording is destroyed after the expiration of the*  
31 *period of time prescribed by the Board pursuant to paragraph (b)*  
32 *of subsection 3.*

33       2. *A recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
34 *psychologist to a patient used for the purpose described in*  
35 *paragraph (a) of subsection 1:*

36       (a) *Must meet all requirements of the Health Insurance*  
37 *Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191,*



1 *and any regulations adopted thereto, that are designed to prevent*  
2 *the reproduction, copying or theft of the recording; and*

3 *(b) Must not contain any personally identifiable information*  
4 *relating to the patient unless the patient has provided informed*  
5 *consent in writing specifically authorizing the inclusion of that*  
6 *information in the recording.*

7 **3. The Board shall adopt regulations:**

8 *(a) Prescribing requirements governing the provision of*  
9 *informed written consent pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection*  
10 *1, including, without limitation, requirements governing:*

11 *(1) The form on which such informed written consent must*  
12 *be provided; and*

13 *(2) The length of time that a psychologist who obtains such*  
14 *informed written consent must maintain the informed written*  
15 *consent;*

16 *(b) Prescribing the length of time that a program of education*  
17 *for mental health professionals, a mental health professional or a*  
18 *person receiving training for mental health professionals that uses*  
19 *a recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
20 *psychologist to a patient for the purposes described in paragraph*  
21 *(a) of subsection 1 may retain the recording before destroying it;*  
22 *and*

23 *(c) Defining “training activity” for the purposes of this section.*

24 **4. The provisions of this section do not abrogate, alter or**  
25 *otherwise affect the obligation of a psychologist to comply with the*  
26 *applicable requirements of chapter 629 of NRS, including, without*  
27 *limitation, the requirement to retain records concerning the*  
28 *mental health services that he or she provides to patients in*  
29 *accordance with NRS 629.051 to 629.069, inclusive.*

30 **5. As used in this section, “mental health professional”**  
31 *means a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical*  
32 *professional counselor, social worker, independent social worker,*  
33 *clinical social worker, clinical alcohol and drug counselor,*  
34 *alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling counselor.*

35 **Sec. 3.** Chapter 641A of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
36 thereto a new section to read as follows:

37 **1. A program of education for mental health professionals**  
38 *approved by the Board, a mental health professional or a person*  
39 *receiving training for mental health professionals is not required*  
40 *to retain a recording of the provision of mental health services by*  
41 *a marriage and family therapist or clinical professional counselor*  
42 *to a client that meets the requirements of subsection 2 if:*

43 *(a) The recording is used for a training activity that is part of a*  
44 *program of education for mental health professionals approved by*  
45 *the Board;*



1 (b) *The client has provided informed consent in writing on a*  
2 *form that meets the requirements prescribed by the Board*  
3 *pursuant to subsection 3 to the use of the recording in the training*  
4 *activity;*

5 (c) *Destroying the recording does not result in noncompliance*  
6 *with the obligations described in subsection 4; and*

7 (d) *The recording is destroyed after the expiration of the*  
8 *period of time prescribed by the Board pursuant to paragraph (b)*  
9 *of subsection 3.*

10 2. *A recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
11 *marriage and family therapist or clinical professional counselor to*  
12 *a client used for the purpose described in paragraph (a) of*  
13 *subsection 1:*

14 (a) *Must meet all requirements of the Health Insurance*  
15 *Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191,*  
16 *and any regulations adopted thereto, that are designed to prevent*  
17 *the reproduction, copying or theft of the recording; and*

18 (b) *Must not contain any personally identifiable information*  
19 *relating to the client unless the client has provided informed*  
20 *consent in writing specifically authorizing the inclusion of that*  
21 *information in the recording.*

22 3. *The Board shall adopt regulations:*

23 (a) *Prescribing requirements governing the provision of*  
24 *informed written consent pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection*  
25 *1, including, without limitation, requirements governing:*

26 (1) *The form on which such informed written consent must*  
27 *be provided; and*

28 (2) *The length of time that a marriage and family therapist*  
29 *or clinical professional counselor who obtains such informed*  
30 *written consent must maintain the informed written consent;*

31 (b) *Prescribing the length of time that a program of education*  
32 *for mental health professionals, a mental health professional or a*  
33 *person receiving training for mental health professionals that uses*  
34 *a recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
35 *marriage and family therapist or clinical professional counselor to*  
36 *a client for the purposes described in paragraph (a) of subsection*  
37 *1 may retain the recording before destroying it; and*

38 (c) *Defining "training activity" for the purposes of this section.*

39 4. *The provisions of this section do not abrogate, alter or*  
40 *otherwise affect the obligation of a marriage and family therapist*  
41 *or clinical professional counselor to comply with the applicable*  
42 *requirements of chapter 629 of NRS, including, without limitation,*  
43 *the requirement to retain records concerning the mental health*  
44 *services that he or she provides to clients in accordance with NRS*  
45 *629.051 to 629.069, inclusive.*



1       5. *As used in this section, "mental health professional"*  
2 *means a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical*  
3 *professional counselor, social worker, independent social worker,*  
4 *clinical social worker, clinical alcohol and drug counselor,*  
5 *alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling counselor.*

6       **Sec. 4.** Chapter 641B of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
7 thereto a new section to read as follows:

8       1. *A program of education for mental health professionals*  
9 *approved by the Board, a mental health professional or a person*  
10 *receiving training for mental health professionals is not required*  
11 *to retain a recording of the provision of mental health services by*  
12 *a social worker, independent social worker or clinical social*  
13 *worker to a client that meets the requirements of subsection 2 if:*

14       (a) *The recording is used for a training activity that is part of a*  
15 *program of education for mental health professionals approved by*  
16 *the Board;*

17       (b) *The client has provided informed consent in writing on a*  
18 *form that meets the requirements prescribed by the Board*  
19 *pursuant to subsection 3 to the use of the recording in the training*  
20 *activity;*

21       (c) *Destroying the recording does not result in noncompliance*  
22 *with the obligations described in subsection 4; and*

23       (d) *The recording is destroyed after the expiration of the*  
24 *period of time prescribed by the Board pursuant to paragraph (b)*  
25 *of subsection 3.*

26       2. *A recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
27 *social worker, independent social worker or clinical social worker*  
28 *to a client used for the purpose described in paragraph (a) of*  
29 *subsection 1:*

30       (a) *Must meet all requirements of the Health Insurance*  
31 *Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191,*  
32 *and any regulations adopted thereto, that are designed to prevent*  
33 *the reproduction, copying or theft of the recording; and*

34       (b) *Must not contain any personally identifiable information*  
35 *relating to the client unless the client has provided informed*  
36 *consent in writing specifically authorizing the inclusion of that*  
37 *information in the recording.*

38       3. *The Board shall adopt regulations:*

39       (a) *Prescribing requirements governing the provision of*  
40 *informed written consent pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection*  
41 *1, including, without limitation, requirements governing:*

42       (1) *The form on which such informed written consent must*  
43 *be provided; and*



1           (2) *The length of time that a social worker, independent*  
2 *social worker or clinical social worker who obtains such informed*  
3 *written consent must maintain the informed written consent;*

4           (b) *Prescribing the length of time that a program of education*  
5 *for mental health professionals, a mental health professional or a*  
6 *person receiving training for mental health professionals that uses*  
7 *a recording of the provision of mental health services by a social*  
8 *worker, independent social worker or clinical social worker to a*  
9 *client for the purposes described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1*  
10 *may retain the recording before destroying it; and*

11           (c) *Defining "training activity" for the purposes of this section.*

12           4. *The provisions of this section do not abrogate, alter or*  
13 *otherwise affect the obligation of a social worker, independent*  
14 *social worker or clinical social worker to comply with the*  
15 *applicable requirements of chapter 629 of NRS, including, without*  
16 *limitation, the requirement to retain records concerning the*  
17 *mental health services that he or she provides to clients in*  
18 *accordance with NRS 629.051 to 629.069, inclusive.*

19           5. *As used in this section, "mental health professional"*  
20 *means a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical*  
21 *professional counselor, social worker, independent social worker,*  
22 *clinical social worker, clinical alcohol and drug counselor,*  
23 *alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling counselor.*

24           **Sec. 5.** Chapter 641C of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
25 thereto a new section to read as follows:

26           1. *A program of education for mental health professionals*  
27 *approved by the Board, a mental health professional or a person*  
28 *receiving training for mental health professionals is not required*  
29 *to retain a recording of the provision of mental health services by*  
30 *a clinical alcohol and drug counselor, alcohol and drug counselor*  
31 *or problem gambling counselor to a client that meets the*  
32 *requirements of subsection 2 if:*

33           (a) *The recording is used for a training activity that is part of a*  
34 *program of education for mental health professionals approved by*  
35 *the Board;*

36           (b) *The client has provided informed consent in writing on a*  
37 *form that meets the requirements prescribed by the Board*  
38 *pursuant to subsection 3 to the use of the recording in the training*  
39 *activity;*

40           (c) *Destroying the recording does not result in noncompliance*  
41 *with the obligations described in subsection 4; and*

42           (d) *The recording is destroyed after the expiration of the*  
43 *period of time prescribed by the Board pursuant to paragraph (b)*  
44 *of subsection 3.*



1       2. *A recording of the provision of mental health services by a*  
2 *clinical alcohol and drug counselor, alcohol and drug counselor*  
3 *or problem gambling counselor to a client used for the purpose*  
4 *described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1:*

5       (a) *Must meet all requirements of the Health Insurance*  
6 *Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191,*  
7 *and any regulations adopted thereto, that are designed to prevent*  
8 *the reproduction, copying or theft of the recording; and*

9       (b) *Must not contain any personally identifiable information*  
10 *relating to the client unless the client has provided informed*  
11 *consent in writing specifically authorizing the inclusion of that*  
12 *information in the recording.*

13       3. *The Board shall adopt regulations:*

14       (a) *Prescribing requirements governing the provision of*  
15 *informed written consent pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection*  
16 *1, including, without limitation, requirements governing:*

17       (1) *The form on which such informed written consent must*  
18 *be provided; and*

19       (2) *The length of time that a clinical alcohol and drug*  
20 *counselor, alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling*  
21 *counselor who obtains such informed written consent must*  
22 *maintain the informed written consent;*

23       (b) *Prescribing the length of time that a program of education*  
24 *for mental health professionals, a mental health professional or a*  
25 *person receiving training for mental health professionals that uses*  
26 *a recording of the provision of mental health services by a clinical*  
27 *alcohol and drug counselor, alcohol and drug counselor or*  
28 *problem gambling counselor to a client for the purposes described*  
29 *in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 may retain the recording before*  
30 *destroying it; and*

31       (c) *Defining "training activity" for the purposes of this section.*

32       4. *The provisions of this section do not abrogate, alter or*  
33 *otherwise affect the obligation of a clinical alcohol and drug*  
34 *counselor, alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling*  
35 *counselor to comply with the applicable requirements of chapter*  
36 *629 of NRS, including, without limitation, the requirement to*  
37 *retain records concerning the mental health services that he or she*  
38 *provides to clients in accordance with NRS 629.051 to 629.069,*  
39 *inclusive.*

40       5. *As used in this section, "mental health professional"*  
41 *means a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical*  
42 *professional counselor, social worker, independent social worker,*  
43 *clinical social worker, clinical alcohol and drug counselor,*  
44 *alcohol and drug counselor or problem gambling counselor.*



1     **Sec. 6.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and  
2 approval.

3     2. Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of this act become effective:

4     (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any  
5 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
6 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

7     (b) On July 1, 2021, for all other purposes.

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