

SENATE BILL NO. 151—SENATOR MANENDO

PREFILED FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Authorizes the establishment of a public health laboratory in certain counties. (BDR 40-752)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
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 public health; authorizing the district board of health in certain counties to establish a public health laboratory; specifying the duties that the laboratory is authorized to perform; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 This bill authorizes the district board of health in a county whose population is  
2 700,000 or more (currently only Clark County) to establish, equip and maintain a  
3 public health laboratory. The laboratory is authorized to: (1) analyze the purity of  
4 food and drugs; (2) investigate cases and suspected cases of human exposure to  
5 certain dangerous agents; (3) investigate cases and suspected cases of infectious  
6 diseases and debilitating conditions; and (4) undertake other laboratory duties in the  
7 interests of public health.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 439 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. The district board of health may establish, equip and*  
4 *maintain a district public health laboratory. The district health*  
5 *officer or his or her designee is in charge of the laboratory.*

6 *2. If a district public health laboratory is established pursuant*  
7 *to subsection 1, the laboratory may:*

8 *(a) Analyze food and drugs for the purpose of enforcing laws*  
9 *concerning the standards of purity of food and drugs;*



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1       ***(b) Analyze environmental factors to investigate cases or***  
2 ***suspected cases of human exposure to infectious, contagious and***  
3 ***communicable diseases, hazardous chemicals and other***  
4 ***dangerous agents;***

5       ***(c) Investigate cases and suspected cases of infectious,***  
6 ***contagious and communicable diseases and debilitating***  
7 ***conditions; and***

8       ***(d) Undertake such other technical and laboratory duties as***  
9 ***are in the interest of the health of the general public.***

10       ***3. If a district health laboratory is established pursuant to***  
11 ***subsection 1, reports of investigations conducted at the laboratory***  
12 ***may be published from time to time in bulletins and circulars.***

13       ***4. The district board of health may set reasonable fees for***  
14 ***performing tests on samples submitted to a district public health***  
15 ***laboratory established pursuant to subsection 1. Such fees must be***  
16 ***for the sole purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of the***  
17 ***laboratory and not for the purposes of general revenue.***

18       **Sec. 2.** NRS 439.361 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19       439.361 The provisions of NRS 439.361 to 439.3685,  
20 inclusive, ***and section 1 of this act*** apply to a county whose  
21 population is 700,000 or more.

22       **Sec. 3.** (Deleted by amendment.)

23       **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

