

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to public health; requiring certain facilities for skilled nursing to submit information to the secure, Internet-based surveillance system established by the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Section 1 of this bill requires each facility for skilled nursing which provided medical services and care to an average of 25 or more patients during each business day in the immediately preceding calendar year to participate in the secure, Internet-based surveillance system established by the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. **Section 1** also provides that other facilities for skilled nursing may participate in the system. **Section 1** additionally requires the Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to report the information submitted to the system by all medical facilities on or after October 15, 2010, and skilled nursing facilities on or after January 1, 2012 and include the reports on the Internet website maintained by the Department.

Section 4 of this bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to post that information on an Internet website.

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

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

Section 1. NRS 439.847 is hereby amended to read as follows:
439.847 1. Each medical facility *and facility for skilled nursing* which provided medical services and care to an average of 25 or more patients during each business day in the immediately preceding calendar year shall, within 120 days after becoming eligible, participate in the secure, Internet-based surveillance system established by the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion of the United States Department of Health and Human Services that integrates patient and health care personnel safety surveillance systems. As part of that participation, the medical facility *or facility for skilled nursing* shall provide, at a minimum, the information required by the Health Division pursuant to this subsection. The Health Division shall by regulation prescribe the information which must be provided by a medical facility ~~or~~ *or facility for skilled nursing*, including, without limitation, information relating to infections and procedures.



2. Each medical facility *or facility for skilled nursing* which provided medical services and care to an average of less than 25 patients during each business day in the immediately preceding calendar year may participate in the secure, Internet-based surveillance system established by the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services that integrates patient and health care personnel safety surveillance systems.

3. A medical facility *or facility for skilled nursing* that participates in the secure, Internet-based surveillance system established by the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion shall ~~authorize~~ :

(a) *Authorize* the Health Division to access all information submitted to the system ~~[, and the Health Division shall enter into an agreement with the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion to carry out the provisions of this section.]~~ by:

(1) *A medical facility, on or after October 15, 2010; and*

(2) *A facility for skilled nursing, on or after January 1, 2012; and*

(b) *Provide consent for the Health Division to prepare and post reports pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 4, including, without limitation, permission to identify the medical facility or facility for skilled nursing that is the subject of each report:*

(1) *For a medical facility, on or after October 15, 2010; and*

(2) *For a facility for skilled nursing, on or after January 1, 2012.*

4. The Health Division ~~shall~~ :

(a) *Shall* analyze the information submitted to the system by medical facilities *and facilities for skilled nursing* pursuant to this section and recommend regulations and legislation relating to the reporting required pursuant to NRS 439.800 to 439.890, inclusive.

(b) *Shall prepare a report of the information submitted to the system by each medical facility and each facility for skilled nursing pursuant to this section and provide the reports for inclusion on the Internet website maintained by the Department. The information must be reported in a manner that allows a person to compare the information for the medical facilities and for the facilities for skilled nursing.*

(c) *Shall enter into an agreement with the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion to carry out the provisions of this section.*



5. As used in this section, “facility for skilled nursing” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0039.

Secs. 1.5 and 1.7. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 2. NRS 439A.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

439A.220 1. The Department shall establish and maintain a program to increase public awareness of health care information concerning the hospitals in this State. The program must be designed to assist consumers with comparing the quality of care provided by the hospitals in this State and the charges for that care.

2. The program must include, without limitation, the collection, maintenance and provision of information concerning:

(a) Inpatients and outpatients of each hospital in this State as reported in the forms submitted pursuant to NRS 449.485;

(b) The quality of care provided by each hospital in this State as determined by applying uniform measures of quality prescribed by the Department pursuant to NRS 439A.230;

(c) How consistently each hospital follows recognized practices to prevent the infection of patients, to speed the recovery of patients and to avoid medical complications of patients;

(d) For each hospital, the total number of patients discharged, the average length of stay and the average billed charges, reported for the ~~[50 most frequent]~~ diagnosis-related groups for inpatients and 50 medical treatments for outpatients that the Department determines are most useful for consumers; and

(e) Any other information relating to the charges imposed and the quality of the services provided by the hospitals in this State which the Department determines is:

(1) Useful to consumers;

(2) Nationally recognized; and

(3) Reported in a standard and reliable manner.

3. As used in this section, “diagnosis-related group” means groupings of medical diagnostic categories used as a basis for hospital payment schedules by Medicare and other third-party health care plans.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. NRS 439A.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

439A.270 1. The Department shall establish and maintain an Internet website that includes the information concerning the charges imposed and the quality of the services provided by the hospitals and surgical centers for ambulatory patients in this State as required by the programs established pursuant to NRS 439A.220 and 439A.240. The information must:



(a) Include, for each hospital in this State, the total number of patients discharged, the average length of stay and the average billed charges, reported for the [50 most frequent] diagnosis-related groups for inpatients and 50 medical treatments for outpatients that the Department determines are most useful for consumers;

(b) Include, for each surgical center for ambulatory patients in this State, the total number of patients discharged and the average billed charges, reported for 50 medical treatments for outpatients that the Department determines are most useful for consumers;

(c) Be presented in a manner that allows a person to view and compare the information for the hospitals by:

- (1) Geographic location of each hospital;
- (2) Type of medical diagnosis; and
- (3) Type of medical treatment;

(d) Be presented in a manner that allows a person to view and compare the information for the surgical centers for ambulatory patients by:

- (1) Geographic location of each surgical center for ambulatory patients;
- (2) Type of medical diagnosis; and
- (3) Type of medical treatment;

(e) Be presented in a manner that allows a person to view and compare the information separately for:

- (1) The inpatients and outpatients of each hospital; and
- (2) The outpatients of each surgical center for ambulatory patients;

(f) Be readily accessible and understandable by a member of the general public;

(g) Include the annual summary of reports of sentinel events prepared pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 439.840; and

(h) Provide any other information relating to the charges imposed and the quality of the services provided by the hospitals and surgical centers for ambulatory patients in this State which the Department determines is:

- (1) Useful to consumers;
- (2) Nationally recognized; and
- (3) Reported in a standard and reliable manner.

2. The Department shall:

- (a) Publicize the availability of the Internet website;
- (b) Update the information contained on the Internet website at least quarterly;



(c) Ensure that the information contained on the Internet website is accurate and reliable;

(d) Ensure that the information *reported by a hospital or surgical center for ambulatory patients for inpatients and outpatients which is* contained on the Internet website is ~~[aggregated]~~ *expressed as a total number and as a rate, and must be reported in a manner* so as not to reveal the identity of a specific inpatient or outpatient of a hospital ~~;~~ *or surgical center for ambulatory patients;*

(e) Post a disclaimer on the Internet website indicating that the information contained on the website is provided to assist with the comparison of hospitals and is not a guarantee by the Department or its employees as to the charges imposed by the hospitals in this State or the quality of the services provided by the hospitals in this State, including, without limitation, an explanation that the actual amount charged to a person by a particular hospital may not be the same charge as posted on the website for that hospital;

(f) Provide on the Internet website established pursuant to this section a link to the Internet website of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

(g) Upon request, make the information that is contained on the Internet website available in printed form.

3. As used in this section, “diagnosis-related group” means groupings of medical diagnostic categories used as a basis for hospital payment schedules by Medicare and other third-party health care plans.

Sec. 5. The Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt the regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act on or before January 1, 2012.

Sec. 6. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval for purposes of adopting regulations and on January 1, 2012, for all other purposes.



