1-1-1983

Health and Welfare; Client Abuse

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Health and Welfare

resident. Furthermore, the advocate may obtain information and assistance from state agencies. When the investigation reveals violations of statutes and regulations, the advocate must refer the results of the investigation to the governmental agencies authorized to enforce the applicable laws and regulations. Finally, the advocate must notify the complainant of the final disposition on the matter.

In summary, Chapter 339 creates rights for patients in health and care facilities and requires that each patient be informed of these rights upon admission to the facility. In addition, Chapter 411 provides advocates for the residents of long-term care facilities, and sets forth the advocates' duties and the procedures they must follow in investigating a complaint made by or on behalf of a resident.

Health and Welfare; client abuse

NEV. REV. STAT. §433.554 (amended).
AB 420 (Jeffrey); 1983 STAT. Ch 390

Existing law makes illegal the abuse of clients of the Department of Human Resources Mental Hygiene and Mental Retardation Division (hereinafter referred to as the Division) by any employee of the Division or by any other person. Chapter 390 expands this client protection by providing that any employee of the Division or other person who has reason to believe that a client has been or is being abused, is guilty of a misdemeanor if the suspected abuse is not reported. For purposes of Chapter 390, abuse means (1) physical or mental injury of a nonaccidental nature, (2) sexual abuse, (3) sexual exploitation, (4) negligent treatment, or (5) maltreatment.

Before the enactment of Chapter 390, the wilful abuse of a client of

1. NEV. REV. STAT. §433.044 (definition of client).
2. Id. §§433.084 (definition of division), 433.554 (amended by 1983 Nev. Stat. c. 390, §1, at 933); see also id. §§433.094 (definition of division facility), 433.233 (list of division facilities).

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the Division was punishable as a misdemeanor. Chapter 390 increases the penalty by providing that an offender who wilfully abuses a client is chargeable with a gross misdemeanor. If, however, the abuse results in substantial bodily harm to the client, the offender may be punished by imprisonment for not less than one or more than six years, by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by both a fine and imprisonment.

Health and Welfare; the mentally retarded

NEV. REV. STAT. §278.— (new).
AB 34 (Committee on Health and Welfare); 1983 STAT. Ch 61

Existing law provides that the governing bodies of cities, counties, or regions may designate zoning districts and regulate the construction and use of buildings and land in each district. Chapter 61 removes obstacles imposed by zoning ordinances that prevent mentally retarded persons from living in normal residences. Any ordinance using the term “single-family residence” must now include within that definition a home in which six or fewer unrelated mentally retarded persons live with one or two other related or unrelated persons who act as house parents or guardians. Governing bodies remain free to regulate homes that are operated on a commercial basis.

Health and Welfare; transportation of livestock

NEV. REV. STAT. §565.080 (repealed); §§565.090, 571.210 (amended).
AB 149 (Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Agriculture); 1983 STAT. Ch 404

Under existing law, it is unlawful for any person to remove animals

1. NEV. REV. STAT. §565.010(1) (definition of animals).