

# BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

## (*NEVADA REVISED STATUTES [NRS] 630.050*)

### CHAPTER 630 (“PHYSICIANS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, MEDICAL ASSISTANTS, PERFUSIONISTS AND PRACTITIONERS OF RESPIRATORY CARE”) OF NRS

#### Background

- 1899—Assembly Bill 29 (Chapter 73, *Statutes of Nevada*) created the State Board of Medical Examiners to consist of five practicing physicians appointed by the governor who were prohibited from receiving compensation for their service. Members were authorized to issue certificates and determine whether a college or institution was reputable.
- 1905—Senate Bill 40 (Chapter 63, *Statutes of Nevada*) made it unlawful to practice medicine, surgery, or obstetrics without first obtaining a license issued by the Board.
- 1949—Senate Bill 111 (Chapter 169, *Statutes of Nevada*) established requirements for Board members, official positions, meeting frequency, and compensation. The bill outlined professional standards for applicants, required an exam prior to certification by the Board, and expanded the Board’s authority and ability to investigate and hold hearings on unprofessional conduct.
- 1977—Assembly Bill 264 (Chapter 163, *Statutes of Nevada*) increased the Board to seven members by adding two appointed members who were not licensed practicing health care providers and who were not actively engaged in the administration of any health care facility.
- 1985—Senate Bill 64 (Chapter 667, *Statutes of Nevada*) increased the Board to nine members by adding one member who was licensed to practice medicine and another who was not a health care provider or administrator. The bill limited the length of time members could be appointed to the Board and specified the governor may remove members for good cause. Fees gathered from licenses and certificates were to be deposited in federally insured financial institutions within the state and used to fund Board expenses, whereas penalties were deposited to the State General Fund via the state treasurer. In addition to updating the fee schedule and requiring biannual registration for practitioners, the bill expanded the powers and duties of the Board to: adopt regulations and examination standards; allow reciprocal licensure for medical practitioners from other jurisdictions; issue multiple forms of licenses; and accept and investigate complaints from any source. Further, it expanded the grounds and number of disciplinary actions the Board could order and specified which records of an investigation should be made public.
- 2003—Senate Bill 310 (Chapter 213, *Statutes of Nevada*) set minimum professional and informational requirements and standards of training for office holders in all regulatory bodies in Nevada, including the Board of Medical Examiners. The bill also prohibited contracts between Board members and their relatives unless there were policies and procedures in place to prevent the person who was employed by a regulatory body from participating in any activities directly related to that licensee. Additionally, it required the two members of the general public not be related to anyone licensed in any state to practice any healing art, and it required one member to represent the interests of persons or agencies that provide health care to indigent, uninsured, or low-income patients.
- 2003—Senate Bill 332 (Chapter 334, *Statutes of Nevada*) provided for licensure reciprocity with other states, territories, and the District of Columbia and required the Board to maintain a website. The bill authorized the Board to waive certain requirements for licensure to practice medicine if the governor declares a state of critical need for certain medical specialties in one or more geographic areas of the state.

This bill also set the minimum requirements for licensees in these areas, and it defined this type of license as a restricted license with the ability to apply for an unrestricted license after three years of full-time practice. Restricted licensees under this chapter were limited to practice only in the medical specialties and/or geographic areas declared to have critical need.

- 2009—[Senate Bill 8](#) (Chapter 251, *Statutes of Nevada*) required Board members to file an acknowledgement of ethical standards as provided in [NRS 281A.500](#) and the executive director to retain copies of the acknowledgements for six years.

### **Reviewed by the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

On [March 21, 2018](#), the Sunset Subcommittee reviewed the Board of Medical Examiners. On [June 13, 2018](#), the Subcommittee recommended that the Board be continued and requested that the Board review its fee schedules, including aligning fees for background checks with the actual cost, and report its findings to the Subcommittee during the 2019-2020 Interim.

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