

Assembly Bill No. 315—Assemblymen O’Neill, Roberts, Dickman, Krasner; Hafen, Hardy, Kasama, Leavitt, McArthur and Thomas

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to public employees; requiring the employer of a police officer, firefighter or correctional officer to make available certain information and counseling relating to mental health issues to the police officer, firefighter or correctional officer; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law sets forth various provisions relating to public officers and employees. (Chapter 281 of NRS) This bill requires the employer of a police officer, firefighter or correctional officer to make available to the police officer, firefighter or correctional officer: (1) during the course of employment, information relating to the awareness, prevention, mitigation and treatment of mental health issues, including, without limitation, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and acute stress; and (2) within three months after the retirement of the police officer, firefighter or correctional officer, not more than 2 hours of counseling with a mental health professional to discuss the symptoms, prevention, mitigation and treatment of mental health issues, including, without limitation, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and acute stress.

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. Chapter 281 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The employer of a police officer, firefighter or correctional officer must make available to the police officer, firefighter or correctional officer:

(a) During the course of employment, information relating to the awareness, prevention, mitigation and treatment of mental health issues, including, without limitation, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and acute stress.

(b) Within 3 months after the retirement of the police officer, firefighter or correctional officer, not more than 2 hours of counseling with a mental health professional to discuss the symptoms, prevention, mitigation and treatment of mental health issues, including, without limitation, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and acute stress.

2. As used in this section:



(a) “Correctional officer” means a person employed by a public employer who is filling a full-time position and whose primary responsibilities are:

(1) The supervision, custody, security, discipline, safety and transportation of a person convicted of a crime under the laws of this State and sentenced to imprisonment in a state prison or detention in a correctional facility of the State or its political subdivisions;

(2) The security and safety of the staff of a state prison or correctional facility of the State or its political subdivisions; and

(3) The security and safety of a state prison or correctional facility of the State or its political subdivisions.

(b) “Firefighter” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 286.042.

(c) “Police officer” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 286.061.

(d) “Public employer” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 286.070.

Sec. 2. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

