



# Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS  
GOVERNOR

May 26, 2009

The Honorable Steven Horsford  
Senate Majority Leader  
Legislative Building  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

**RE: Senate Bill 319 of the 75<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**

Dear Senator Horsford,

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Senate Bill 319, which is entitled:

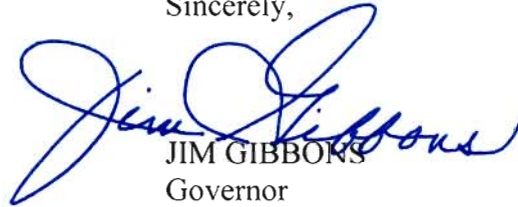
AN ACT relating to health care; revising provisions relating to reports of sentinel events; requiring certain investigations relating to sentinel events; requiring the Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to prepare an annual summary of the reports; requiring the Health Division to study certain issues relating to the tracking and reporting of near-miss events; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senate Bill 319 pertains primarily to the reporting of sentinel events by medical facilities. Existing law requires the reporting of sentinel events to the Department of Health and Human Services. This bill amends and expands upon many of these reporting requirements and many of those additions and amendments represent sound public policy. However, the bill also requires publication of many reports related to sentinel events. The publication of such reports creates an opportunity for mischief from those who would seek to profit from the misfortunes of others by identifying events that could become the basis of litigation. Reports are already filed with and maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services, and that agency is equipped to respond to problems identified in the reports.

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For these reasons, I hereby exercise my constitutional grant of authority and veto Senate Bill 319.

Sincerely,



JIM GIBBONS  
Governor

JG/kjc

Enclosure

Cc: The Honorable Barbara Buckley, Speaker of the Assembly (without enclosure)  
The Honorable Ross Miller, Secretary of State (without enclosure)  
Claire J. Clift, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure)  
Susan Furlong Reil, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure)  
Brenda Erdoes, Esq., Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)