

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2–
Committee of the Whole

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging certain
actions by the school districts and the Nevada System of
Higher Education to respond to the current budget shortfall.

WHEREAS, The serious downward movement of the economy of the United States has, in turn, had a negative effect on the economy of the State of Nevada, including high rates of unemployment and an alarmingly high rate of foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, Although the 2009 Session of the Legislature addressed what was then a looming budget gap by making cuts to the State's budget of about \$1 billion and implementing temporary tax increases amounting to an estimated \$781 million, recent economic projections yield a nearly \$900 million budget shortfall; and

WHEREAS, While meeting its constitutional duty to balance the State's budget, the Legislature has taken extraordinary measures to shield public education from further cuts with the recognition that public education funding is imperative to ensure the future success of Nevada's children and in the long term, to ensure the success of Nevada's economic recovery; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislature hereby urges the boards of trustees of the 17 county school districts and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to make every possible effort during this fiscal crisis to protect the needs of Nevada's students and to ensure a high-quality public education while examining ways to maximize efficiency by:

1. Examining the function and efficacy of programs and services to determine whether any should be eliminated or replaced because they no longer serve a useful purpose;
2. Examining whether benefits offered to higher-level staff can be reduced or temporarily reduced;
3. Reviewing the ratios of administrators to staff and administrators to students and considering adjustments to those ratios if it is determined that the number of administrators is too high in relation to the number of staff or students, as applicable;
4. Posting organizational structures, administration levels and budgets on publicly available websites to ensure transparency;



5. Examining overhead costs to determine if there are efficiencies that may be gained in implementing alternative methods of purchasing, maintenance and other practices;

6. Ensuring that any adjustments made to salaries and benefits are made in a fair and equitable manner so that some employees are not exempt from the impact of such adjustments; and

7. Considering the “shared sacrifice” that is necessary to prevent massive layoffs and to ensure a high quality of service to Nevada’s students; and be it further

RESOLVED, That on or before September 1, 2010, the board of trustees of each school district and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada provide a report of their findings and any adjustments made and actions taken as a result of those findings to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the Interim Finance Committee and the next regular session of the Nevada Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the president of the board of trustees of each school district and the Chair of the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

