

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25—ASSEMBLYMAN CARPENTER

MARCH 5, 1999

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Committee on Education to study feasibility of certain educational reforms. (BDR R-1135)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~for omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Committee on Education to study the feasibility of adopting certain reforms for the system of public education.

1 WHEREAS, During the past 2 years, this state has developed and enacted
2 sweeping reforms in the system of public education to improve the
3 academic achievement of pupils, including, without limitation, requiring
4 the adoption of rigorous academic standards of content and performance
5 and statewide assessments measuring the achievement of pupils in the new
6 standards of content and performance; and

7 WHEREAS, The rigorous new academic standards of content and
8 performance and other reforms made to the system of public education in
9 this state demand a high level of quality and performance by both pupils
10 and teachers; and

11 WHEREAS, As part of the educational reform, the Legislative Committee
12 on Education was created to evaluate, review and comment upon issues
13 related to education within this state; and

14 WHEREAS, Despite the significant progress made during the past 2
15 years, it is imperative that the educational reform be continually analyzed
16 and revised as necessary to ensure that the academic achievement of pupils
17 in this state improves; and

18 WHEREAS, Other states have been successful in adopting reforms, in
19 addition to the reforms that have been adopted in this state, that would be
20 useful for this state to consider; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE
2 CONCURRING, That the Legislative Committee on Education shall study
3 the components of the systems of public education in other states that have
4 proven successful and shall determine whether Nevada's system of public
5 education would benefit by:

6 1. Setting forth clear objectives for teachers that are closely linked to
7 the standards of content and performance;

8 2. Adopting a system of both sanctions and rewards for schools and
9 school districts that are linked to the results of the assessments, including,
10 without limitation, providing financial awards to schools that have
11 sustained the highest level of academic success or have demonstrated the
12 greatest academic improvement;

13 3. Ranking school districts as well as schools based upon achievement;

14 4. Authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to conduct on-
15 site inspections of schools as part of the accreditation program of a school
16 district;

17 5. Reducing the size of the Department of Education and further
18 directing the Department to focus its efforts on accountability and
19 assessment programs, measuring and reporting test scores and organizing
20 resources for schools and school districts that are performing inadequately;
21 and

22 6. Establishing a Nevada Business and Education Coalition to develop
23 a plan to improve the system of public education and report to the
24 Governor, Legislative Committee on Education and the State Board of
25 Education regarding the plan and the steps that are necessary to carry out
26 the plan; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Committee on Education shall, in
28 consultation with the school districts in this state, review Title 34 of NRS
29 to identify any statutes that the Committee determines should be
30 recommended for repeal by the Legislature to allow schools and school
31 districts more local control and flexibility in determining how to satisfy the
32 rigorous new academic standards of content and performance; and be it
33 further

34 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Committee on Education shall evaluate
35 the statewide automated system of information concerning pupils
36 established by the Department of Education pursuant to NRS 386.650 to
37 determine the extent to which the system supports the program of
38 accountability for public schools, including, without limitation, whether
39 the system allows adequate access to testing data so that the information
40 can be used for diagnostic purposes and whether the system provides a
41 method for reports to superintendents, principals and teachers; and be it
42 further

1 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Committee on Education shall evaluate
2 methods to shift resources to disadvantaged schools, including, without
3 limitation:

4 1. Allowing individual schools the flexibility to use the money for
5 class-size reduction to pay for full-day kindergarten and for remediation
6 programs that have proven successful in improving the academic
7 achievement of pupils; and

8 2. Requiring schools that are performing inadequately to coordinate
9 the use of all money received for remediation with the assistance of the
10 Department of Education; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Committee on Education shall report
12 any findings or recommendations for legislation to the 71st session of the
13 Nevada Legislature; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit
15 a copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Legislative Committee on
16 Education.