

Senate Bill No. 443–Committee on Finance

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; creating a committee to study the methods of funding higher education in this state; providing for its organization, powers and duties; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** 1. The Committee to Study the Funding of Higher Education, consisting of 12 voting members and 4 nonvoting members, is hereby created.

2. The following persons shall serve as voting members of the Committee:

(a) Three members of the Senate, appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(b) Three members of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;

(c) Three members of the Board of Regents, appointed by the Chairman of that board; and

(d) Three members appointed by the Governor.

3. The Governor shall appoint the following persons to serve as the nonvoting members of the Committee:

(a) One person who is employed in the Budget Division of the Department of Administration; and

(b) Three persons who are employed by the University and Community College System of Nevada.

4. The Chairman of the Legislative Commission shall designate one of the members as Chairman of the Committee.

5. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall provide the necessary professional staff and a secretary for the Committee.

6. For each day or portion of a day during which they attend a meeting of the Committee or are otherwise engaged in the business of the Committee:

(a) The voting members of the Committee who are Legislators are entitled to receive the compensation provided for a majority of the members of the Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding regular session plus the per diem allowance provided for state officers and employees generally and the travel expenses provided pursuant to NRS 218.2207.

(b) The voting members of the Committee who are members of the Board of Regents are entitled to receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance at the rates established in NRS 396.070.

(c) The voting members of the Committee appointed by the Governor are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.

**Sec. 2.** The Committee shall:

1. Compare the existing method of funding higher education in Nevada with the methods used in other states; and
2. Determine whether the other methods would be appropriate and useful in Nevada.

**Sec. 3.** The Committee may hold public hearings at such times and places as it deems necessary to afford the general public and representatives of governmental agencies and of organizations interested in higher education an opportunity to present relevant information and recommendations.

**Sec. 4.** The Committee may employ such educational and financial consultants as it deems necessary for this study.

**Sec. 5.** The Committee may accept and use all gifts and grants which it receives to further its work.

**Sec. 6.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund to the Legislative Commission the sum of \$150,000 for the purpose of conducting a study of the funding of higher education as provided in this act.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after December 31, 2000, and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

**Sec. 7.** The Committee shall submit to the Legislative Commission a report of its findings and recommendations for legislation before the commencement of the 71st session of the Legislature.

**Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 1999, and expires by limitation on January 1, 2001.

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