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SENATE BILL NO. 445—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES  
AND FACILITIES

MARCH 15, 1999

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Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Revises courses of study required to be taught in public schools. (BDR 34-1632)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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

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AN ACT relating to education; prescribing the academic subjects for public schools; requiring the state board of education to adopt certain courses of study; repealing certain courses of study; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1     **Section 1.** NRS 386.550 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2     386.550 A charter school shall:  
3     1. Comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and  
4     civil rights.  
5     2. Remain nonsectarian, including, without limitation, in its  
6     educational programs, policies for admission and employment practices.  
7     3. Refrain from charging tuition or fees, levying taxes or issuing bonds.  
8     4. Comply with any plan for desegregation ordered by a court that is in  
9     effect in the school district in which the charter school is located.  
10    5. Comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.  
11    6. Schedule and provide annually at least as many days of instruction  
12    as are required of other public schools located in the same school district as  
13    the charter school is located.  
14    7. Cooperate with the board of trustees of the school district in the  
15    administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations  
16    administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 to the pupils who are enrolled in the  
17    charter school.

1 8. Comply with applicable statutes and regulations governing the  
2 achievement and proficiency of pupils in this state.

3 9. Provide *instruction in the core academic subjects set forth in*  
4 *subsection 1 of section 3 of this act, as applicable for the grade levels of*  
5 *pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, and provide* at least the  
6 courses of instruction that are required of pupils by statute or regulation for  
7 promotion to the next grade or graduation from a public high school and  
8 require the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take those  
9 courses of study. This subsection does not preclude a charter school from  
10 offering, or requiring the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to  
11 take, other courses of study that are required by statute or regulation.

12 10. Provide instruction on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and  
13 the human reproductive system, related to communicable diseases and  
14 sexual responsibility in accordance with NRS 389.065.

15 11. Adhere to the same transportation policy that is in effect in the  
16 school district in which the charter school is located.

17 **Sec. 2.** NRS 388.380 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 388.380 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the board  
19 of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or  
20 more shall and any other board of trustees of a school district may:

21 (a) Establish and maintain occupational schools or classes giving  
22 instruction in the subjects approved by the state board for occupational  
23 education.

24 (b) Raise and expend money for the establishment and maintenance of  
25 occupational schools or classes.

26 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall incorporate into  
27 the curriculum:

28 (a) Occupational guidance and counseling ~~;~~ *in accordance with NRS*  
29 *389.180;* and

30 (b) Technology . ~~;~~  
31 ~~in accordance with the courses of study adopted by the state board pursuant~~  
32 ~~to NRS 389.170 and 389.180.~~

33 **Sec. 3.** Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a  
34 new section to read as follows:

35 *1. The following subjects are designated as the core academic*  
36 *subjects that must be taught, as applicable for grade levels, in all public*  
37 *schools, the Caliente youth center and the Nevada youth training center:*

38 (a) *English, including reading, composition and writing;*

39 (b) *Mathematics;*

40 (c) *Science; and*

41 (d) *Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history,*  
42 *geography, economics and government.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in addition to the core academic subjects, the following subjects must be taught as applicable for grade levels and to the extent practicable in all public schools, the Caliente youth center and the Nevada youth training center:

- (a) The arts;
- (b) Computer education and technology;
- (c) Health; and
- (d) Physical education.

If the state board requires the completion of course work in a subject area set forth in this subsection for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a public school shall offer the required course work. Unless a subject is required for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a charter school is not required to comply with this subsection.

3. The state board shall adopt regulations establishing courses of study and the grade levels for which the courses of study apply for:

- (a) The academic subjects set forth in subsections 1 and 2.
- (b) Citizenship and physical training for pupils enrolled in high school.
- (c) Physiology, hygiene and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- (d) The prevention of suicide.
- (e) Instruction relating to child abuse.
- (f) The economics of the American system of free enterprise.
- (g) American Sign Language.
- (h) Environmental education.
- (i) Adult roles and responsibilities.

A course of study established for paragraph (a) may include one or more of the subjects listed in paragraphs (b) to (i), inclusive.

4. The state board shall adopt regulations that require all public schools to set aside appropriate time for patriotic observance.

**Sec. 4.** NRS 389.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.010 Except as otherwise provided in NRS ~~389.170 and~~ 389.180, boards of trustees of school districts shall enforce in schools the courses of study prescribed and adopted by the state board.

**Sec. 5.** 1. The subjects taught in public schools pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of section 3 of this act must be in accordance with the standards of content and performance established for grade levels by the council to establish academic standards for public schools pursuant to section 45 of chapter 473, Statutes of Nevada 1997, at page 1780.

2. The courses of study established by the state board of education pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 3 of section 3 of this act must comply with and carry out the standards of content and performance that are submitted to the state board of education by the council to establish

1 academic standards for public schools pursuant to section 45 of chapter  
2 473, Statutes of Nevada 1997, at page 1780.

3 **Sec. 6.** NRS 389.040, 389.050, 389.060, 389.063, 389.075, 389.080,  
4 389.083, 389.085, 389.110, 389.120, 389.130, 389.140, 389.170 and  
5 389.190 are hereby repealed.

6 **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 1999.

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## TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

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**389.040 Patriotic exercises.**

**389.050 Instruction in high school in citizenship and physical training; employment of teachers of physical training.**

**389.060 Instruction in physiology, hygiene and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.**

**389.063 Instruction on prevention of suicide.**

**389.075 Instruction relating to child abuse.**

**389.080 Instruction in economics of American system of free enterprise.**

**389.083 American Sign Language: Approval of course work; credit as foreign language.**

**389.085 Automobile driver education program: Establishment; appropriations; apportionments to school districts and charter schools; restrictions on expenditures.**

**389.110 Environmental education: Instruction in environmental preservation and protection, principles of ecology and conservation of resources.**

**389.120 Environmental education: Counseling programs.**

**389.130 Environmental education: Programs for outdoor education and camping.**

**389.140 Environmental education: Duties of superintendent of public instruction.**

**389.170 Course of study: Technology.**

**389.190 Course of study: Adult roles and responsibilities.**