ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 213-COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

FEBRUARY 22, 2001

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing discipline of pupils. (BDR 34-217)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

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Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets fomitted material; is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to pupils; authorizing school districts to enroll pupils who are deemed habitual disciplinary problems in alternative programs of instruction; 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. NRS 392.466 is hereby amended to read as follows:

392.466 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any pupil who commits a battery which results in the bodily injury of an employee of the school, sells or distributes any controlled substance or is found in possession of a dangerous weapon, while on the premises of any public school, at an activity sponsored by a public school or on any school bus must, for the first occurrence, be suspended or expelled from that school, although he may be placed in another kind of school, for at least a period equal to one semester for that school. For a second occurrence, the pupil must:

(a) Be permanently expelled from that school; and

- (b) Receive equivalent instruction authorized by the state board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any pupil who is found in possession of a firearm while on the premises of any public school, at an activity sponsored by a public school or on any school bus must, for the first occurrence, be expelled from the school for a period of not less than 1 year, although he may be placed in another kind of school for a period not to exceed the period of the expulsion. For a second occurrence, the pupil must:
 - (a) Be permanently expelled from the school; and



- (b) Receive equivalent instruction authorized by the state board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070.
- The superintendent of schools of a school district may, in a particular case in that school district, allow an exception to the expulsion requirement of this subsection.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in this section, if a pupil is deemed a habitual disciplinary problem pursuant to NRS 392.4655, the pupil must be suspended or expelled from the school for a period equal to at least one semester for that school. For the period of his suspension or expulsion, the pupil must **freeeivel**:
- (a) Upon the approval of the school district, enroll in a program pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 392.4675; or
- (b) Receive equivalent instruction authorized by the state board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070.
- 4. This section does not prohibit a pupil from having in his possession a knife or firearm with the approval of the principal of the school. A principal may grant such approval only in accordance with the policies or regulations adopted by the board of trustees of the school district.
- 5. Any pupil in grades 1 to 6, inclusive, except a pupil who has been found to have possessed a firearm in violation of subsection 2, may be suspended from school or permanently expelled from school pursuant to this section only after the board of trustees of the school district has reviewed the circumstances and approved this action in accordance with the procedural policy adopted by the board for such issues.
- 6. A pupil who is participating in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.520, other than a pupil who is gifted and talented, may, in accordance with the procedural policy adopted by the board of trustees of the school district for such matters, be:
- (a) Suspended from school pursuant to this section for not more than 10 days. Such a suspension may be imposed pursuant to this paragraph for each occurrence of conduct proscribed by subsection 1.
- (b) Suspended from school for more than 10 days or permanently expelled from school pursuant to this section only after the board of trustees of the school district has reviewed the circumstances and determined that the action is in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq.
 - 7. As used in this section:

- (a) "Battery" has the meaning ascribed to it in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 200.481.
- (b) "Dangerous weapon" includes, without limitation, a blackjack, slung shot, billy, sand-club, sandbag, metal knuckles, dirk or dagger, a nunchaku, switchblade knife or trefoil, as defined in NRS 202.350, a butterfly knife or any other knife described in NRS 202.350, or any other object which is used, or threatened to be used, in such a manner and under such circumstances as to pose a threat of, or cause, bodily injury to a person.
- (c) "Firearm" includes, without limitation, any pistol, revolver, shotgun, explosive substance or device, and any other item included within the definition of a "firearm" in 18 U.S.C. § 921, as that section existed on July 1, 1995.



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- **Sec. 2.** NRS 392.4675 is hereby amended to read as follows: 392.4675 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a pupil who is suspended or expelled from:
- (a) Any public school in this state pursuant to NRS 392.466; or
- (b) Any school outside of this state for the commission of any act which, if committed within this state, would be a ground for suspension or expulsion from public school pursuant to NRS 392.466,
- is ineligible to attend any public school in this state during the period of that suspension or expulsion.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a school district may allow a pupil who is ineligible to attend a public school pursuant to this section to enroll in:
- (a) An alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school; or
- (b) Any program of instruction offered pursuant to the provisions of 15 NRS 388.550. 16
- A school district may conduct an investigation of the background of any 17 18 such pupil to determine if the educational needs of the pupil may be 19 satisfied without undue disruption to the program. If an investigation is 20 conducted, the board of trustees of the school district shall, based on the results of the investigation, determine if the pupil will be allowed to enroll 21 22 in such a program. 23
 - 3. The provisions of subsection 2 do not authorize the enrollment in such a program of a pupil who is \[\cdots
- 25 (a) Expelled expelled for a second occurrence of a violation pursuant to subsections 1 or 2 of NRS 392.466. [; or 26
- (b) Suspended or expelled pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 392.466.] Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001. 27
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