

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 405—ASSEMBLYMEN ANGLE, GIBBONS, BEERS,
BROWN, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CLABORN, COLLINS,
GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, MARVEL, NOLAN, PRICE, TIFFANY AND
VON TOBEL

MARCH 16, 2001

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS RAWSON, NEAL, COFFIN,
WASHINGTON, O'DONNELL AND SHAFFER

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Expresses sense of Nevada Legislature regarding reading proficiency of
Nevada's school children. (BDR 34-652)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to education; expressing the sense of the Nevada Legislature regarding
available methods to improve the reading proficiency of Nevada's school
children at an early grade level; 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.** 1. The Nevada Legislature declares that:
2 (a) It is essential to the educational success of the children who are
3 enrolled in Nevada's public schools that they learn to read with proficiency
4 at an early grade level;
5 (b) The acquisition of reading and literacy grants provided through the
6 Reading Excellence Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6661 et seq., would greatly enhance
7 the ability of this state to increase the reading proficiency of Nevada's
8 school children;
9 (c) The intended goal of the Nevada Legislature is to increase the
10 reading proficiency of Nevada's school children at an early grade level and
11 to establish the optimal conditions for the receipt of reading and literacy
12 grants provided through the Reading Excellence Act;
13 (d) In furtherance of its intended goal, the Nevada Legislature hereby
14 states that it is in support of:



* A B 4 0 5 R 1 *

- 1 (1) The establishment of a plan pursuant to which the Governor and
2 the Department of Education will establish a reading and literacy
3 partnership in accordance with the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6661b(d) to
4 ensure that all applications and proposals for reading and literacy grants
5 provided through the Reading Excellence Act are presented in such a
6 manner as to produce an outcome resulting in the maximum financial and
7 educational benefit for this state;
8 (2) The availability and delivery of professional development
9 activities for the teachers who are employed in this state that are:
10 (I) Related to providing instruction in reading;
11 (II) Based upon scientifically based reading research; and
12 (III) Founded on a balanced approach to providing instruction in
13 reading that prepares teachers in the major components of reading,
14 including, without limitation, phonemic awareness, systematic phonics,
15 spelling, vocabulary, fluency, reading comprehension and writing;
16 (3) The use of technology, as appropriate, to enhance the professional
17 development activities described in subparagraph (2);
18 (4) The participation of parents and legal guardians in activities
19 related to reading and literacy in a manner that will enhance the ability of
20 their children to learn;
21 (5) The provision of family literacy services that are based upon
22 programs such as the Even Start Family Literacy Program; and
23 (6) The development of mechanisms to assess and evaluate, on a
24 regular basis, the progress made by the school districts in this state in
25 enhancing the reading proficiency of Nevada's school children at an early
26 grade level.
27 2. As used in this section:
28 (a) "Reading" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 6661a(4).
29 (b) "Scientifically based reading research" has the meaning ascribed to
30 in 20 U.S.C. § 6661a(5).
31 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

