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SENATE BILL NO. 305-SENATORS RAWSON AND WIENER

MARCH 9, 2001

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYWOMEN CEGAVSKE AND VON TOBEL

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Requires Legislative Commission to appoint committee to conduct interim study of and disseminate information regarding programs for certain at-risk pupils. (BDR S-263)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.

Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Legislative Commission to appoint a committee to conduct an interim study of and disseminate information regarding programs for pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school and using drugs; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

WHEREAS, This state has a vital interest in ensuring that its pupils refrain from engaging in behaviors which put them at risk of dropping out of school and using drugs; and

WHEREAS, The failure to identify and implement appropriate means of intervention in these patterns of behavior could result in the tragic and costly loss of these pupils as productive members of our society; and

WHEREAS, The timely identification and implementation of effective programs for the assistance of these pupils would substantially improve their chances of finishing school, avoiding entanglements with drugs and the criminal justice system and fulfilling their potential in life; now, therefore.

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

18 19 **Section 1.** 1. The Legislative Commission shall appoint a committee of six legislators, consisting of three members of the Senate and three members of the Assembly, to conduct an interim study concerning programs of education and counseling for pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school and using drugs.



- 2. The committee shall include, without limitation, the following topics in its study:
 - (a) An overview, evaluation and analysis of research-based programs of education and counseling that have proven effective with pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school and using drugs, including, without limitation, "Reconnecting Youth," which is produced by the National Education Service; and
 - (b) An examination of the possible options for funding such programs.
- 3. In addition to the duties prescribed in subsection 2, the committee shall provide for the dissemination of information to local school districts regarding the programs that are a part of its study, including, without limitation, information concerning "Reconnecting Youth," which is designed for at-risk youth to increase school performance and prevent drug abuse, school dropout, depression and suicidal behavior.
- 4. Any recommended legislation proposed by the committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the Senate appointed to the committee and a majority of the members of the Assembly appointed to the committee.
- 19 5. The Legislative Commission shall submit a report of its findings and 20 any recommendations for legislation to the 72nd session of the Nevada 21 Legislature.
- Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001.

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