SENATE BILL NO. 399-SENATOR CARE

MARCH 19, 2001

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing education. (BDR 34-859)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.

2

3

4 5 6

10

11

12 13

14

Effect on the State: No.

~

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

AN ACT relating to education; revising provisions governing charter schools; authorizing boards of trustees of school districts and governing bodies of charter schools to provide programs of distance education for certain pupils; requiring the state board of education to adopt regulations prescribing the requirements of programs of distance education; revising provisions governing the apportionments of money from the state distributive school account to provide for the payment of money for pupils who are enrolled in programs of distance education; making certain provisions related to collective bargaining applicable to charter schools and their employees; repealing the prospective removal of the limit on the number of charter schools that may be formed; providing a penalty; 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. Chapter 386 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Unless otherwise authorized by specific statute, it is unlawful for a member of the board of trustees of a school district or an employee of a school district to solicit or accept any gift or payment of money on his own behalf or on behalf of the school district or for any other purpose from a member of a committee to form a charter school, the governing body of a charter school, or any officer or employee of a charter school.

2. This section does not prohibit the payment of a salary or other

2. This section does not prohibit the payment of a salary or other compensation or income to a member of the board of trustees or an employee of a school district for services provided in accordance with a contract made pursuant to NRS 386.560.

3. A person who violates subsection 1 shall be punished for a misdemeanor.



- Sec. 2. NRS 386.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.520 1. A committee to form a charter school must consist of at least [three] seven persons, at least three of whom must be teachers, as defined in [NRS 391.311, alone or in combination with:
- (a) Ten or more members subsection 4. In addition to the teachers who serve, the committee may consist of:
 - (a) Members of the general public;

- (b) Representatives of an organization devoted to service to the general public;
 - (c) Representatives of a private business; or
- (d) Representatives of a college or university within the University and Community College System of Nevada.
- A majority of the persons described in paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, who serve on the committee must be residents of this state at the time that the application to form the charter school is submitted to the department.
- 2. Before a committee to form a charter school may submit an application to the board of trustees of a school district, it must submit the application to the department. The application must include all information prescribed by the department by regulation and:
- prescribed by the department by regulation and:

 (a) A written description of how the charter school will carry out the provisions of NRS 386.500 to 386.610, inclusive [...], and section 1 of this act.
- (b) A written description of the mission and goals for the charter school. A charter school must have as its stated purpose at least one of the following goals:
 - (1) Improving the opportunities for pupils to learn;
 - (2) Encouraging the use of effective methods of teaching;
- (3) Providing an accurate measurement of the educational achievement of pupils;
 - (4) Establishing accountability of public schools;
- (5) Providing a method for public schools to measure achievement based upon the performance of the schools; or
 - (6) Creating new professional opportunities for teachers.
 - (c) The projected enrollment of pupils in the charter school.
 - (d) The proposed dates of enrollment for the charter school.
- (e) The proposed system of governance for the charter school, including, without limitation, the number of persons who will govern, the method of selecting the persons who will govern and the term of office for each person. The system of governance must comply with NRS 386.549.
- (f) The method by which disputes will be resolved between the governing body of the charter school and the sponsor of the charter school.
 - (g) The proposed curriculum for the charter school.
 - (h) The textbooks that will be used at the charter school.
- (i) The qualifications of the persons who will provide instruction at the charter school.
- (j) Except as otherwise required by NRS 386.595, the process by which the governing body of the charter school will negotiate employment contracts with the employees of the charter school.



(k) A financial plan for the operation of the charter school. The plan must include, without limitation, procedures for the audit of the programs and finances of the charter school and guidelines for determining the financial liability if the charter school is unsuccessful.

- (1) A statement of whether the charter school will provide for the transportation of pupils to and from the charter school. If the charter school will provide transportation, the application must include the proposed plan for the transportation of pupils. If the charter school will not provide transportation, the application must include a statement that the charter school will work with the parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the charter school to develop a plan for transportation to ensure that pupils have access to transportation to and from the charter school.
- (m) The procedure for the evaluation of teachers of the charter school, if different from the procedure prescribed in NRS 391.3125. If the procedure is different from the procedure prescribed in NRS 391.3125, the procedure for the evaluation of teachers of the charter school must provide the same level of protection and otherwise comply with the standards for evaluation set forth in NRS 391.3125.
- (n) The time by which certain academic or educational results will be achieved.
- 3. The department shall review an application to form a charter school to determine whether it is complete. The department shall provide written notice to the applicant of its approval or denial of the application. If the department denies an application, the department shall include in the written notice the reason for the denial and the deficiencies in the application. The applicant must be granted 30 days after receipt of the written notice to correct any deficiencies identified in the written notice and resubmit the application.
 - 4. As used in subsection 1, "teacher" means a person who:
- (a) Holds a current license to teach issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS;
 - (b) Is currently employed by a school district in this state; and
- (c) Has been employed for at least 3 years immediately preceding the date on which the application is submitted in a position pursuant to which he devotes the majority of his time rendering direct educational service to pupils enrolled in the school district.
- The term does not include a person who is employed as a substitute teacher.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 386.549 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.549 1. The *initial membership of the* governing body of a charter school schall must consist of all the members of the committee that submitted the application to form the charter school, whose terms must be for a period of at least 1 year. After the initial membership, the governing body of a charter school must consist of at least seven persons, at least three of whom must be teachers, as defined in NRS 391.311, subsection 3, and may consist of, without limitation, parents and representatives of nonprofit organizations and businesses. Each teacher who serves on the governing body must be employed to provide instruction at the charter school. If the teacher ceases to be employed in



that capacity at the charter school, his term on the governing body automatically expires.

- 2. The governing body of a charter school is a public body. It is hereby given such reasonable and necessary powers, not conflicting with the constitution and the laws of the State of Nevada, as may be requisite to attain the ends for which the charter school is established and to promote the welfare of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school.
 - 3. As used in this section, "teacher" means a person who:
- (a) Holds a current license to teach issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS;
- (b) Was employed by a school district in this state on the date on which the application to form the charter school was submitted; and
- (c) Was employed by a school district in this state for at least 3 years immediately preceding the date on which the application to form a charter school was submitted in a position pursuant to which he devoted the majority of his time rendering direct educational service to pupils enrolled in the school district.

18 The term does not include a person who is employed as a substitute 19 teacher.

- **Sec. 4.** NRS 386.550 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.550 1. A charter school shall:

- [1.] (a) Comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and civil rights.
- [2.] (b) Remain nonsectarian, including, without limitation, in its educational programs, policies for admission and employment practices.
- [3.] (c) Refrain from charging tuition or fees, levying taxes or issuing bonds.
- [4.] (d) Comply with any plan for desegregation ordered by a court that is in effect in the school district in which the charter school is located.
 - [5.] (e) Comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.
- [6.] (f) Except as otherwise provided in this [subsection,] paragraph, schedule and provide annually at least as many days of instruction as are required of other public schools located in the same school district as the charter school is located. The governing body of a charter school may submit a written request to the superintendent of public instruction for a waiver from providing the days of instruction required by this [subsection.] paragraph. The superintendent of public instruction may grant such a request if the governing body demonstrates to the satisfaction of the superintendent that:
 - (a) Extenuating circumstances exist to justify the waiver; and
- (b) (2) The charter school will provide at least as many hours or minutes of instruction as would be provided under a program consisting of 180 days.
- [7.] (g) Cooperate with the board of trustees of the school district in the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and the examinations required pursuant to NRS 389.550 to the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school.



[8.] (h) Comply with applicable statutes and regulations governing the achievement and proficiency of pupils in this state.

[9.] (i) Provide instruction in the core academic subjects set forth in subsection 1 of NRS 389.018, as applicable for the grade levels of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, and provide at least the courses of instruction that are required of pupils by statute or regulation for promotion to the next grade or graduation from a public high school and require the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take those courses of study. This [subsection] paragraph does not preclude a charter school from offering, or requiring the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take, other courses of study that are required by statute or regulation.

[10.] (j) Refrain from using public money to purchase real property or buildings without the approval of the sponsor.

[11.] (k) Hold harmless, indemnify and defend the sponsor of the charter school against any claim or liability arising from an act or omission by the governing body of the charter school or an employee or officer of the charter school. An action at law may not be maintained against the sponsor of a charter school for any cause of action for which the charter school has obtained liability insurance.

[12.] (1) Provide written notice to the parents or legal guardians of pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, who are enrolled in the charter school of whether the charter school is accredited by the Commission on Schools of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

[13.] (m) Adopt a final budget in accordance with the regulations adopted by the department. A charter school is not required to adopt a final budget pursuant to NRS 354.598 or otherwise comply with the provisions of chapter 354 of NRS.

(n) If the charter school provides a program of distance education pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act, comply with all statutes and regulations that are applicable to a program of distance education for purposes of the operation of the program, regardless of whether those statutes and regulations impose additional requirements upon the charter school.

- 2. A charter school shall not provide instruction, including, without limitation, instruction provided through a program of distance education, to children who are exempt from compulsory attendance and receiving equivalent instruction authorized by the state board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070. As used in this subsection, "distance education" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 17 of this act.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 386.560 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.560 1. The governing body of a charter school may contract with the board of trustees of the school district in which the charter school is located or the University and Community College System of Nevada for the provision of facilities to operate the charter school or to perform any service relating to the operation of the charter school, including, without limitation, transportation and the provision of health services for the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school.
- 2. A charter school may use any public facility located within the school district in which the charter school is located. A charter school may



use school buildings owned by the school district only upon approval of the board of trustees of the school district and during times that are not regular school hours.

- 3. The board of trustees of a school district may donate surplus personal property of the school district to a charter school that is located within the school district.
- 4. [Upon] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a charter school, the board of trustees of the school district in which the charter school is located shall authorize the pupil to participate in a class that is not available to the pupil at the charter school or participate in an extracurricular activity, excluding sports, at a public school within the school district if:
- (a) Space for the pupil in the class or extracurricular activity is available; and
- (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the pupil is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity.

If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a pupil to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to this subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the pupil to attend the class or activity. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a pupil who is enrolled in a charter school and who desires to participate on a part-time basis in a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees of a school district pursuant to section 22 of this act.

- 5. Upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a charter school, the board of trustees of the school district in which the charter school is located shall authorize the pupil to participate in sports at the public school that he would otherwise be required to attend within the school district, or upon approval of the board of trustees, any public school within the same zone of attendance as the charter school if:
 - (a) Space is available for the pupil to participate; and
- (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the pupil is qualified to participate.

If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a pupil to participate in sports pursuant to this subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the pupil to participate.

6. The board of trustees of a school district may revoke its approval for a pupil to participate in a class, extracurricular activity or sports at a public school pursuant to subsections 4 and 5 if the board of trustees or the public school determines that the pupil has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations of the board of trustees, the public school or an association for interscholastic activities. If the board of trustees so revokes its approval, neither the board of trustees nor the public school are liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the pupil.



Sec. 6. NRS 386.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25

26

27

30 31

32

33

34

35

36 37

38 39 40

41

42

43

44

45

46 47

48

386.570 1. Each pupil who is enrolled in a charter school, including, without limitation, a pupil who is enrolled in a program of special education in a charter school, must be included in the count of pupils in the school district for the purposes of apportionments and allowances from the state distributive school account pursuant to NRS 387.121 to 387.126, inclusive, unless the pupil is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.070. A charter school is entitled to receive its proportionate share of any other money available from federal, state or local sources that the school or the pupils who are enrolled in the school are eligible to receive.

- 2. The governing body of a charter school may negotiate with the board of trustees of the school district and the state board for additional money to pay for services which the governing body wishes to offer.
- 3. To determine the amount of money for distribution to a charter school in its first year of operation, the count of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school must initially be determined 30 days before the beginning of the school year of the school district, based on the number of pupils whose applications for enrollment have been approved by the charter school. The count of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school must be revised on the last day of the first school month of the school district in which the charter school is located for the school year, based on the actual number of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school. Pursuant to subsection [2] 4 of NRS 387.124, the governing body of a charter school may request that the apportionments made to the charter school in its first year of operation be paid to the charter school 30 days before the apportionments are otherwise required to be made.
- 4. The governing body of a charter school may solicit and accept donations, money, grants, property, loans, personal services or other assistance for purposes relating to education from members of the general public, corporations or agencies. The governing body may comply with applicable federal laws and regulations governing the provision of federal grants for charter schools.
- 5. If a charter school uses money received from this state to purchase real property, buildings, equipment or facilities, the governing body of the charter school shall assign a security interest in the property, buildings, equipment and facilities to the State of Nevada.
- Sec. 7. NRS 386.590 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.590 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, at least 70 percent of the teachers who provide instruction at a charter school must be licensed teachers. If a charter school is a vocational school, the charter school shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that at least 70 percent of the teachers who provide instruction at the school are licensed teachers, but in no event may more than 50 percent of the teachers who provide instruction at the school be unlicensed teachers.
 - 2. A governing body of a charter school shall employ:
- (a) If the charter school offers instruction in kindergarten or grade 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, a licensed teacher to teach pupils who are enrolled in those grades.



- (b) If the charter school offers instruction in grade 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12, a licensed teacher to teach pupils who are enrolled in those grades for the following courses of study:
 - (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;
 - (2) Mathematics;
- (3) Science; and

2

5

6

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21

22

24

26

27

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

40

41

42 43

44

45

- (4) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics and government.
 - (c) In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b):
- (1) If a charter school specializes in arts and humanities, physical education or health education, a licensed teacher to teach those courses of study.
- (2) If a charter school specializes in the construction industry or other building industry, licensed teachers to teach courses of study relating to the industry if those teachers are employed full time.
- (3) If a charter school specializes in the construction industry or other building industry and the school offers courses of study in computer education, technology or business, licensed teachers to teach those courses of study if those teachers are employed full time.
- It is unlawful for the governing body of a charter school to employ any teacher pursuant to this subsection who is not legally qualified to teach all the grades that the teacher is engaged to teach.
- 3. A charter school may employ a person who is not licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 391 of NRS to teach a course of study for which a licensed teacher is not required pursuant to subsection 2 if the person has:
- (a) A degree, a license or a certificate in the field for which he is employed to teach at the charter school; and
 - (b) At least 2 years of experience in that field.
- 4. A charter school may employ such administrators for the school as it deems necessary. A person employed as an administrator must possess:
- (a) A master's degree in school administration, public administration or business administration; or
- (b) If the person has at least 5 years of experience in administration, a baccalaureate degree.
- 5. A charter school shall not employ a person pursuant to this section if 36 37 his license to teach or provide other educational services has been revoked 38 or suspended in this state or another state. 39
 - 6. On or before November 15 of each year, a charter school shall submit to the department, in a form prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction, the following information for each licensed employee who is employed by the governing body on October 1 of that year:
 - (a) The amount of salary of the employee; and
 - (b) The designated assignment, as that term is defined by the department, of the employee.
 - Sec. 8. NRS 386.595 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.595 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsections 2, 3 and [3,] 4, the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement entered into by the board of trustees of the school district in



which the charter school is located apply to the terms and conditions of employment of employees of the charter school. [If a written charter is renewed, the employees of the charter school may, at the time of renewal, apply for recognition as a bargaining unit pursuant to NRS 288.160.] An employee of a charter school is not a member of the same bargaining unit as an employee of the school district and is not entitled to representation by the employee organization that is a party to the collective bargaining agreement of the school district. However, during the time that the collective bargaining agreement of the school district remains applicable to the employees of the charter school, the employee organization that is a party to the agreement may, but is not required to, represent an employee of the charter school in a grievance proceeding or other dispute arising out of the agreement.

- 2. A charter school is exempt from the specific provisions of the collective bargaining agreement *of the school district* that controls the:
- (a) Periods of preparation time for teachers, provided that the charter school allows at least the same amount of time for preparation as the school district;
 - (b) Times of day that a teacher may work;

- (c) Number of hours that a teacher may work in 1 day;
- (d) Number of hours and days that a teacher may work in 1 week; and
- (e) Number of hours and days that a teacher may work in 1 year.

If a teacher works more than the number of hours or days prescribed in the collective bargaining agreement, the teacher must be compensated for the additional hours or days in an amount calculated by prorating the salary for the teacher that is set forth in the collective bargaining agreement.

- 3. A teacher or a governing body of a charter school may request that the **[board of trustees of the school district and other persons]** *parties* who entered into the collective bargaining agreement *of the school district* grant a waiver from specific provisions of the **[collective bargaining]** agreement for the teacher or governing body.
- 4. The collective bargaining agreement of a school district in which a charter school is located ceases to apply to the employees in any bargaining unit recognized by the governing body of the charter school pursuant to chapter 288 of NRS if, pursuant to that chapter, an employee organization is recognized as the exclusive bargaining agent for those employees and a new collective bargaining agreement is entered into between the governing body and the employee organization. The employee organization that is a party to the collective bargaining agreement of the school district may seek recognition on the same basis as any other employee organization.
- 5. All employees of a charter school shall be deemed public employees.
- [5.] 6. The governing body of a charter school may make all employment decisions with regard to its employees pursuant to NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, unless the applicable collective bargaining agreement contains separate provisions relating to the discipline of licensed employees of a school.



[6.] 7. If the written charter of a charter school is revoked, the employees of the charter school must be reassigned to employment within the school district in accordance with the *applicable* collective bargaining agreement.

 [7.] A school district is not required to reassign an employee of a charter school pursuant to this subsection if the employee:

- (a) Was not granted a leave of absence by the school district to teach at the charter school pursuant to subsection 8; or
- (b) Was granted a leave of absence by the school district and did not submit a written request to return to employment with the school district in accordance with subsection 8.
- 8. The board of trustees of a school district that is a sponsor of a charter school shall grant a leave of absence, not to exceed 6 years, to any employee who is employed by the board of trustees who requests such a leave of absence to accept employment with the charter school. After the first school year in which an employee is on a leave of absence, he may return to his former teaching position with the board of trustees. After the third school year, an employee who is on a leave of absence may submit a written request to the board of trustees to return to a comparable teaching position with the board of trustees. After the sixth school year, an employee shall either submit a written request to return to a comparable teaching position or resign from the position for which his leave was granted. The board of trustees shall grant a written request to return to a comparable position pursuant to this subsection even if the return of the employee requires the board of trustees to reduce the existing work force of the school district. The board of trustees may require that a request to return to a teaching position submitted pursuant to this subsection be submitted at least 90 days before the employee would otherwise be required to report to duty.
- [8.] 9. An employee who is on a leave of absence from a school district pursuant to this section shall contribute to and be eligible for all benefits for which he would otherwise be entitled, including, without limitation, participation in the public employees' retirement system and accrual of time for the purposes of leave and retirement. The time during which such an employee is on leave of absence and employed in a charter school does not count toward the acquisition of permanent status with the school district.
- [9.] 10. Upon the return of a teacher to employment in the school district, he is entitled to the same level of retirement, salary and any other benefits to which he would otherwise be entitled if he had not taken a leave of absence to teach in a charter school.
- [10.] 11. An employee of a charter school who is not on a leave of absence from a school district is eligible for all benefits for which he would be eligible for employment in a public school, including, without limitation, participation in the public employees' retirement system.

11. 12. For all employees of a charter school:

(a) The compensation that a teacher or other school employee would have received if he were employed by the school district must be used to



determine the appropriate levels of contribution required of the employee and employer for purposes of the public employees' retirement system.

- (b) The compensation that is paid to a teacher or other school employee that exceeds the compensation that he would have received if he were employed by the school district must not be included for the purposes of calculating future retirement benefits of the employee.
- [12.] 13. If the board of trustees of a school district in which a charter school is located manages a plan of group insurance for its employees, the governing body of the charter school may negotiate with the board of trustees to participate in the same plan of group insurance that the board of trustees offers to its employees. If the employees of the charter school participate in the plan of group insurance managed by the board of trustees, the governing body of the charter school shall:
- (a) Ensure that the premiums for that insurance are paid to the board of trustees; and
- (b) Provide, upon the request of the board of trustees, all information that is necessary for the board of trustees to provide the group insurance to the employees of the charter school.
- Sec. 9. NRS 386.600 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.600 1. On or before November 15 of each year, the governing body of each charter school shall submit to the sponsor of the charter school, the superintendent of public instruction, the governor and the director of the legislative counsel bureau for transmission to the majority leader of the senate and the speaker of the assembly a report that includes:
- (a) A written description of the progress of the charter school in achieving the mission and goals of the charter school set forth in its application.
- (b) For each licensed employee and nonlicensed teacher employed by the charter school on October 1 of that year:
 - (1) The amount of salary of the employee; and
- (2) The designated assignment, as that term is defined by the department, of the employee.
- (c) For each fund maintained by the charter school, including, without limitation, the general fund of the charter school and any special revenue fund which receives state money, the total number and salaries of licensed and nonlicensed persons whose salaries are paid from the fund and who are employed by the governing body in full-time positions or in part-time positions added together to represent full-time positions. Information must be provided for the current school year based upon the final budget of the charter school, including any amendments and augmentations thereto, and for the preceding school year. An employee must be categorized as filling an instructional, administrative, instructional support or other position.
 - (d) The count of pupils who are enrolled in a charter school in:
 - (1) Kindergarten;

2

8

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19 20 21

22 23

24

25

26 27

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38 39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

- (2) Grades 1 to 12, inclusive; and
- (3) Special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive.
- (e) The actual expenditures of the charter school in the fiscal year immediately preceding the report.



(f) The proposed expenditures of the charter school for the current fiscal year.

2

3

8

Q

10

11 12

13 14 15

16

17

22

23

24

25

26

27

29 30

31

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

- (g) The salary schedule for licensed employees and nonlicensed teachers in the current school year and a statement of whether salary negotiations for the current school year have been completed. If salary negotiations have not been completed at the time the salary schedule is submitted, the governing body shall submit a supplemental report to the superintendent of public instruction upon completion of negotiations.
- (h) The number of employees eligible for health insurance within the charter school for the current and preceding fiscal years and the amount paid for health insurance for each such employee during those years.
- (i) The rates for fringe benefits, excluding health insurance, paid by the charter school for its licensed employees in the preceding and current fiscal
- (j) The amount paid for extra duties, supervision of extracurricular activities and supplemental pay, and the number of employees receiving that pay in the preceding and current fiscal years.
- 2. On or before November 25 of each year, the superintendent of public instruction shall submit to the *governor*, *the* department of administration and the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau, in a format approved by the director of the department of administration, a compilation of the reports made by each governing body pursuant to subsection 1.
- 3. The superintendent of public instruction shall, in the compilation required by subsection 2, reconcile the revenues and expenditures of the charter schools with the apportionment received by those schools from the state distributive school account for the preceding year.

- Sec. 10. NRS 387.123 is hereby amended to read as follows:387.123 1. The count of pupils for apportionment purposes includes all pupils who are enrolled in programs of instruction of the school district, including, without limitation, a program of distance education provided by the school district, or pupils who reside in the county in which the school district is located and are enrolled in any charter school, *including*, without limitation, a program of distance education provided by a charter **school** for:
 - (a) Pupils in the kindergarten department.
 - (b) Pupils in grades 1 to 12, inclusive.
- (c) Pupils not included under paragraph (a) or (b) who are receiving special education pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive.
- (d) Pupils not included under paragraph (a) or (b) who reside in the county and are enrolled full time in a program of distance education provided by another school district if an agreement is filed with the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to section 21 of this act.
- (e) Pupils not included under paragraph (a) or (b) who reside in the county and are enrolled part time in a program of distance education if an agreement is filed with the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to section 21 or 22 of this act, as applicable.



(f) Children detained in detention homes, alternative programs and juvenile forestry camps receiving instruction pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.550, 388.560 and 388.570.

- **((e))** (g) Pupils who are enrolled in classes pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 386.560.
- **(f)** (h) Pupils who are enrolled in classes pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 392.070.
- [(g)] (i) Part-time pupils enrolled in classes and taking courses necessary to receive a high school diploma, excluding those pupils who are included in paragraphs (e), (g) and [(f).] (h).

 2. The state board shall establish uniform regulations for counting
- 2. The state board shall establish uniform regulations for counting enrollment and calculating the average daily attendance of pupils. In establishing such regulations for the public schools, the state board:
- (a) Shall divide the school year into 10 school months, each containing 20 or fewer school days.
- (b) May divide the pupils in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, into categories composed respectively of those enrolled in elementary schools and those enrolled in secondary schools.
- (c) Shall prohibit the counting of any pupil specified in subsection 1 more than once.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 and NRS 388.700, the state board shall establish by regulation the maximum pupil-teacher ratio in each grade, and for each subject matter wherever different subjects are taught in separate classes, for each school district of this state which is consistent with:
 - (a) The maintenance of an acceptable standard of instruction;
- (b) The conditions prevailing in the school district with respect to the number and distribution of pupils in each grade; and
- (c) Methods of instruction used, which may include educational television, team teaching or new teaching systems or techniques.
- If the superintendent of public instruction finds that any school district is maintaining one or more classes whose pupil-teacher ratio exceeds the applicable maximum, and unless he finds that the board of trustees of the school district has made every reasonable effort in good faith to comply with the applicable standard, he shall, with the approval of the state board, reduce the count of pupils for apportionment purposes by the percentage which the number of pupils attending those classes is of the total number of pupils in the district, and the state board may direct him to withhold the quarterly apportionment entirely.
- 4. [A] The provisions of subsection 3 do not apply to a charter school lis not required to comply with the pupil teacher ratio prescribed by the state board pursuant to subsection 3.] or a program of distance education provided pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.
 - Sec. 11. NRS 387.1233 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 387.1233 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, basic support of each school district must be computed by:
- (a) Multiplying the basic support guarantee per pupil established for that school district for that school year by the sum of:



(1) Six-tenths the count of pupils enrolled in the kindergarten department on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, including, without limitation, the count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled in any charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.

- (2) [The] Except for the pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (3), the count of pupils enrolled in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, including, without limitation, the count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled in any charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (3) Six-tenths the count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled:
- (I) Full time in a program of distance education provided by the school district or a charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (II) Full time in a program of distance education provided by another school district if an agreement is filed with the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to section 21 of this act, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (4) The count of pupils not included under subparagraph (1), (2) or (3) who reside in the county and are enrolled:
- (I) In a public school of the school district and are concurrently enrolled part time in a program of distance education provided by another school district or a charter school if an agreement is filed with the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to section 21 of this act, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).
- (II) In a charter school and are concurrently enrolled part time in a program of distance education provided by a school district or another charter school if an agreement is filed with the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to section 22 of this act, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).
- (5) The count of pupils not included under subparagraph (1), [or] (2), (3) or (4) who are receiving special education pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, excluding the count of pupils who have not attained the age of 5 years and who are receiving special education pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 388.490 on that day.
- (4) (6) Six-tenths the count of pupils who have not attained the age of 5 years and who are receiving special education pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 388.490 on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.



[(5)] (7) The count of children detained in detention homes, alternative programs and juvenile forestry camps receiving instruction pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.550, 388.560 and 388.570 on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.

[6] (8) The count of pupils who are enrolled in classes for at least one semester pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 386.560 or subsection 3 of NRS 392.070, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).

- (b) Multiplying the number of special education program units maintained and operated by the amount per program established for that school year.
 - (c) Adding the amounts computed in paragraphs (a) and (b).
- 2. If the enrollment of pupils in a school district or a charter school that is located within the school district on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year is less than the enrollment of pupils in the same school district or charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the immediately preceding school year, the larger number must be used for purposes of apportioning money from the state distributive school account to that school district or charter school pursuant to NRS 387.124.
- 3. Pupils who are excused from attendance at examinations or have completed their work in accordance with the rules of the board of trustees must be credited with attendance during that period.
- 4. Pupils who are incarcerated in a facility or institution operated by the department of prisons must not be counted for the purpose of computing basic support pursuant to this section. The average daily attendance for such pupils must be reported to the department of education.
- 5. Part-time pupils who are enrolled in courses which are approved by the department as meeting the requirements for an adult to earn a high school diploma must not be counted for the purpose of computing basic support pursuant to this section. The average daily attendance for such pupils must be reported to the department.
 - Sec. 12. NRS 387.124 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 387.124 Except as otherwise provided in *this section and* NRS 387.528:
- 1. On or before August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1 of each year, the superintendent of public instruction shall [, except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3.] apportion the state distributive school account in the state general fund among the several county school districts and charter schools in amounts approximating one-fourth of their respective yearly apportionments less any amount set aside as a reserve. The apportionment to a school district, computed on a yearly basis, equals the difference between the basic support and the local funds available pursuant to NRS 387.1235, minus all the funds attributable to pupils who reside in the county but attend a charter school [.] and all the funds attributable to pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled full time or part time in a program of distance education provided by another



Q

 school district or a charter school. No apportionment may be made to a school district if the amount of the local funds exceeds the amount of basic support. The apportionment to a charter school, computed on a yearly basis, is equal to the sum of the basic support per pupil in the county in which the pupil resides plus the amount of local funds available per pupil pursuant to NRS 387.1235 and all other funds available for public schools in the county in which the pupil resides [-] minus all the funds attributable to pupils who are enrolled in the charter school but are concurrently enrolled part time in a program of distance education provided by a school district or another charter school. If the apportionment per pupil to a charter school is more than the amount to be apportioned to the school district in which a pupil who is enrolled in the charter school resides, the school district in which the pupil resides shall pay the difference directly to the charter school.

- 2. In addition to the apportionments made pursuant to this section, an apportionment must be made to a school district that provides a program of distance education for each pupil enrolled full time in the program who does not reside within the school district which provides the program if an agreement is filed for that pupil pursuant to section 21 of this act. The amount of the apportionment, computed on a yearly basis, equals the difference between the basic support calculated pursuant to subparagraph (3) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233 and the local funds available pursuant to NRS 387.1235 to the school district in which the pupil resides.
- 3. In addition to the apportionments made pursuant to this section, an apportionment must be made to a school district or charter school that provides a program of distance education for each pupil who is enrolled part time in the program if an agreement is filed for that pupil pursuant to section 21 or 22 of this act, as applicable. The amount of the apportionment must be equal to the percentage of the total time services are provided to the pupil through the program of distance education per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233 for the school district in which the pupil resides.
- 4. The governing body of a charter school may submit a written request to the superintendent of public instruction to receive, in the first year of operation of the charter school, an apportionment 30 days before the apportionment is required to be made pursuant to subsection 1. Upon receipt of such a request, the superintendent of public instruction may make the apportionment 30 days before the apportionment is required to be made. A charter school may receive all four apportionments in advance in its first year of operation.
- [3.] 5. If the state controller finds that such an action is needed to maintain the balance in the state general fund at a level sufficient to pay the other appropriations from it, he may pay out the apportionments monthly, each approximately one-twelfth of the yearly apportionment less any amount set aside as a reserve. If such action is needed, the state controller shall submit a report to the department of administration and the fiscal



analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau documenting reasons for the action.

Sec. 13. NRS 387.1243 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 387.1243 1. The first apportionment based on an estimated number of pupils and special education program units and succeeding apportionments are subject to adjustment from time to time as the need therefor may appear.
- 2. The apportionments to a school district may be adjusted during a fiscal year by the department of education, upon approval by the *state* board of examiners and the interim finance committee, if the department of taxation and the county assessor in the county in which the school district is located certify to the department of education that the school district will not receive the tax levied pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 387.195 on property of the Federal Government located within the county if:
- (a) The leasehold interest, possessory interest, beneficial interest or beneficial use of the property is subject to taxation pursuant to NRS 361.157 and 361.159 and one or more lessees or users of the property are delinquent in paying the tax; and
- (b) The total amount of tax owed but not paid for the fiscal year by any such lessees and users is at least 5 percent of the proceeds that the school district would have received from the tax levied pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 387.195.
- If a lessee or user pays the tax owed after the school district's apportionment has been increased in accordance with the provisions of this subsection to compensate for the tax owed, the school district shall repay to the *state* distributive school account in the state general fund an amount equal to the tax received from the lessee or user for the year in which the school district received an increased apportionment, not to exceed the increase in apportionments made to the school district pursuant to this subsection.
- 3. On or before August 1 of each year, the board of trustees of a school district shall provide to the department, in a format prescribed by the department, the count of pupils calculated pursuant to subparagraph [(6)] (8) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233 who completed at least one semester during the immediately preceding school year. The count of pupils submitted to the department must be included in the final adjustment computed pursuant to subsection 4.
- 4. A final adjustment for each school district and charter school must be computed as soon as practicable following the close of the school year, but not later than August 25. The final computation must be based upon the actual counts of pupils required to be made for the computation of basic support and the limits upon the support of special education programs, except that for any year when the total enrollment of pupils and children in a school district or a charter school located within the school district described in paragraphs (a) [.(b), (e) and (d)] to (f), inclusive, of subsection 1 of NRS 387.123 is greater on the last day of any school month of the school district after the second school month of the school district and the increase in enrollment shows at least:



(a) A 3-percent gain, basic support as computed from first month enrollment for the school district or charter school must be increased by 2 percent.

- (b) A 6-percent gain, basic support as computed from first month enrollment for the school district or charter school must be increased by an additional 2 percent.
- 5. If the final computation of apportionment for any school district or charter school exceeds the actual amount paid to the school district or charter school during the school year, the additional amount due must be paid before September 1. If the final computation of apportionment for any school district or charter school is less than the actual amount paid to the school district or charter school during the school year, the difference must be repaid to the state distributive school account in the state general fund by the school district or charter school before September 25.

Sec. 14. NRS 387.185 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 387.185 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 387.528, all school money due each county school district must be paid over by the state treasurer to the county treasurer on August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1 of each year or as soon thereafter as the county treasurer may apply for it, upon the warrant of the state controller drawn in conformity with the apportionment of the superintendent of public instruction as provided in NRS 387.124.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 387.528, if the board of trustees of a school district establishes and administers a separate account pursuant to the provisions of NRS 354.603, all school money due that school district must be paid over by the state treasurer to the school district on August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1 of each year or as soon thereafter as the school district may apply for it, upon the warrant of the state controller drawn in conformity with the apportionment of the superintendent of public instruction as provided in NRS 387.124.
- 3. No county school district may receive any portion of the public school money unless that school district has complied with the provisions of this Title and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, all school money due each charter school must be paid over by the state treasurer to the governing body of the charter school on August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1 of each year or as soon thereafter as the governing body may apply for it, upon the warrant of the state controller drawn in conformity with the apportionment of the superintendent of public instruction as provided in NRS 387.124. If the superintendent of public instruction has approved, pursuant to subsection [2] 4 of NRS 387.124, a request for payment of an apportionment 30 days before the apportionment is otherwise required to be made, the money due to the charter school must be paid by the state treasurer to the governing body of the charter school on July 1, October 1, January 1 or April 1, as applicable.
- **Sec. 15.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.



Sec. 16. As used in sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 17 and 18 of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Q

- Sec. 17. "Distance education" means instruction which is delivered by means of video, computer, television, correspondence or the Internet or other electronic means of communication, or any combination thereof, in such a manner that the person supervising or providing the instruction and the pupil receiving the instruction are separated geographically for a majority of the time during which the instruction is delivered.
- Sec. 18. "Program of distance education" means a program which uses distance education as its primary mechanism for delivery and is comprised of one or more courses of study that is designed for pupils who:
- 1. Are participating in a program for pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.537.
- 2. Are participating in a program of independent study pursuant to NRS 389.155.
- 3. Are enrolled in a public school that does not offer advanced courses.
- 4. Have a physical or mental condition that would otherwise require an excuse from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.050.
- 5. Would otherwise be excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.080.
- 6. Are otherwise prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264, 392.4642 to 392.4648, inclusive, 392.466, 392.467 or 392.4675.
- Sec. 19. 1. The board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school may submit an application to the department to provide a program of distance education.
- 2. An application to provide a program of distance education must include:
 - (a) All the information prescribed by the state board by regulation.
- (b) Proof satisfactory to the department that the program satisfies all applicable statutes and regulations.
- (c) If the program will be offered for enrollment of pupils on a fultime basis by the board of trustees of a school district, a written description of the manner in which the board of trustees will determine the affiliation of a pupil with a public school of the school district for purposes of section 23 of this act. The affiliation of a pupil with a public school for purposes of section 23 of this act may be determined in accordance with, without limitation, applicable zones established by the board of trustees pursuant to NRS 388.040, the grade level of pupils who are enrolled in the program or the level of participation of a particular public school of the school district in the operation of the program of distance education.
- 3. The department may approve an application submitted pursuant to this section if the application satisfies the requirements of sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act and all other applicable statutes and regulations.



The department shall not unreasonably withhold its approval of an application.

Sec. 20. 1. A pupil who:

- (a) Is participating in a program for pupils at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.537;
- (b) Is participating in a program of independent study pursuant to NRS 389.155;
- (c) Is enrolled in a public school that does not offer certain advanced courses which the pupil desires to attend;
- (d) Has a physical or mental condition that would otherwise require an excuse from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.050;
- (e) Would otherwise be excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.080; or
- (f) Is otherwise prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264, 392.4642 to 392.4648, inclusive, 392.466, 392.467 or 392.4675,

may enroll in a program of distance education.

- 2. A child who is exempt from compulsory attendance and receiving equivalent instruction authorized by the state board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070 is not eligible to enroll in or otherwise attend a program of distance education, regardless of whether he is otherwise eligible for enrollment pursuant to subsection 1.
- 3. If a pupil who is prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264 enrolls in a program of distance education, the enrollment and attendance of that pupil must comply with all requirements of NRS 62.405 to 62.485, inclusive, and 392.251 to 392.271, inclusive.
- 4. If a pupil is eligible for enrollment in a program of distance education pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, he may enroll in the program of distance education only for the purpose of taking those advanced courses that are not offered at the public school he otherwise attends.
- Sec. 21. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, before a pupil may enroll full time or part time in a program of distance education that is provided by a school district other than the school district in which the pupil resides, the pupil must obtain the written permission of the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides. Before a pupil who is enrolled in a public school of a school district may enroll part time in a program of distance education that is provided by a charter school, the pupil must obtain the written permission of the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides. A pupil who enrolls full time in a program of distance education that is provided by a charter school is not required to obtain the approval of the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides.
- 2. If the board of trustees of a school district grants permission pursuant to subsection 1, the board of trustees shall enter into a written agreement with the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable, that provides the program of distance education. A separate agreement



must be prepared for each year that a pupil enrolls in a program of distance education. The written agreement must:

Q

(a) Contain a statement prepared by the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides indicating that the board of trustees understands that the superintendent of public instruction will make appropriate adjustments in the apportionments to the school district pursuant to NRS 387.124 to account for the pupil's enrollment in the program of distance education;

(b) If the pupil plans to enroll part time in the program of distance education, contain a statement prepared by the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides and the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education setting forth the percentage of the total time services will be provided to the pupil through the program of distance education per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233 for the school district in which the pupil resides;

(c) Be signed by the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides and the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education; and

(d) Include any other information required by the state board by regulation.

3. On or before September 1 of each year, a written agreement must be filed with the superintendent of public instruction for each pupil who is enrolled full time or part time in a program of distance education provided by a school district other than the school district in which the pupil resides. On or before September 1 of each year, a written agreement must be filed with the superintendent of public instruction for each pupil who is enrolled in a public school of the school district and who is enrolled part time in a program of distance education provided by a charter school. If an agreement is not filed for a pupil who is enrolled in a program of distance education as required by this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall not apportion money for that pupil to the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil resides, or the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education.

Sec. 22. 1. If a pupil is enrolled in a charter school, he may enroll full time in a program of distance education only if the charter school in which he is enrolled provides the program of distance education.

2. Before a pupil who is enrolled in a charter school may enroll part time in a program of distance education that is provided by a school district or another charter school, the pupil must obtain the written permission of the governing body of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled.

3. If the governing body of a charter school grants permission pursuant to subsection 2, the governing body shall enter into a written agreement with the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable, that provides the program of distance education. A separate agreement



1 must be prepared for each year that a pupil enrolls in a program of 2 distance education. The written agreement must:

(a) Contain a statement prepared by the governing body of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled indicating that the governing body understands that the superintendent of public instruction will make appropriate adjustments in the apportionments to the charter school pursuant to NRS 387.124 to account for the pupil's enrollment in the program of distance education;

(b) Contain a statement prepared by the governing body of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled and the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education setting forth the percentage of the total time services will be provided to the pupil through the program of distance education per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233 for the school district in which the pupil resides;

(c) Be signed by the governing body of the charter in which the pupil is enrolled and the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education; and

(d) Include any other information required by the state board by regulation.

4. On or before September 1 of each year, a written agreement must be filed with the superintendent of public instruction for each pupil who is enrolled in a charter school and who is enrolled part time in a program of distance education provided by a school district or another charter school. If an agreement is not filed for such a pupil, the superintendent of public instruction shall not apportion money for that pupil to the governing body of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled, or the board of trustees or governing body that provides the program of distance education.

Sec. 23. 1. If a pupil is enrolled full time in a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees of a school district, the board of trustees of the school district that provides the program shall declare for each such pupil the public school within that school district to which the pupil is affiliated. Upon the declared affiliation, the pupil shall be deemed enrolled in that public school for purposes of all the applicable requirements, statutes, regulations, rules and policies of that public school and school district, including, without limitation:

(a) Graduation requirements;

(b) Accountability of public schools, as set forth in NRS 385.3455 to 385.391, inclusive;

(c) Provisions governing the attendance and truancy of pupils, as set forth in NRS 392.040 to 392.220, inclusive; and

(d) Discipline of pupils.

2. A pupil who is enrolled full time in a program of distance education provided by a charter school shall be deemed enrolled in the charter school. All the applicable requirements, including, without limitation, statutes, regulations, rules and policies of that charter school apply to such a pupil, including, without limitation:



- (a) Graduation requirements;
- (b) Accountability of public schools, as set forth in NRS 385.3455 to 385.391, inclusive;
- (c) Provisions governing the attendance and truancy of pupils, as set forth in NRS 392.040 to 392.220, inclusive; and
 - (d) Discipline of pupils.

- 3. If a pupil is enrolled part time in a program of distance education, all the applicable requirements, statutes, regulations, rules and policies of the public school of the school district in which the pupil is otherwise enrolled or the charter school in which the pupil is otherwise enrolled apply to such a pupil, including, without limitation:
 - (a) Graduation requirements;
- (b) Accountability of public schools, as set forth in NRS 385.3455 to 385.391, inclusive;
- (c) Provisions governing the attendance and truancy of pupils, as set forth in NRS 392.040 to 392.220, inclusive; and
 - (d) Discipline of pupils.
- Sec. 24. 1. The state board shall adopt regulations that prescribe:
- (a) The process for submission of an application by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to provide a program of distance education and the contents of the application;
- (b) A method for reporting to the department the number of pupils who are enrolled in a program of distance education and the attendance of those pupils;
- (c) The requirements for assessing the achievement of pupils who are enrolled in a program of distance education, which must include, without limitation, the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations required pursuant to NRS 389.015 and 389.550; and
- (d) A written description of the process pursuant to which the department may revoke its approval for the operation of a program of distance education.
- 2. The state board may adopt regulations as it determines are necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.
 - Sec. 25. NRS 388.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 388.090 1. Except as otherwise permitted pursuant to this section, boards of trustees of school districts shall schedule and provide a minimum of 180 days of free school in the districts under their charge.
- 2. The superintendent of public instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize a reduction of not more than 15 school days in a particular district to establish or maintain a 12-month school program or a program involving alternative scheduling, if the board of trustees demonstrates that the proposed schedule for the program provides for a greater number of minutes of instruction than would be provided under a program consisting of 180 school days. Before authorizing a reduction in the number of required school days pursuant to this subsection, the superintendent of public instruction must find that the proposed schedule will be used to alleviate problems associated with a growth in enrollment



or overcrowding, or to establish and maintain a program of alternative schooling \vdash , including, without limitation, a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.

- 3. The superintendent of public instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize the addition of minutes of instruction to any scheduled day of free school if days of free school are lost because of any interscholastic activity. Not more than 5 days of free school so lost may be rescheduled in this manner.
- 4. Each school district shall schedule at least 3 contingent days of school in addition to the number of days required by this section, which must be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within the district.
- 5. If more than 3 days of free school are lost because a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within a school district, the superintendent of public instruction, upon application by the school district, may permit the additional days lost to be counted as school days in session. The application must be submitted in the manner prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 6. The state board [of education] shall adopt regulations providing procedures for changing schedules of instruction to be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a particular school within a school district.

Sec. 26. NRS 388.537 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 388.537 1. The board of trustees of a school district may, subject to the approval of the state board, operate an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school, including pupils who:
- (a) Because of extenuating circumstances, such as their being pregnant, parents, chronically ill or self-supporting, are not able to attend the classes of instruction regularly provided in high school;
- (b) Are deficient in the amount of academic credit necessary to graduate with pupils their same age;
 - (c) Are chronically absent from high school; or
- (d) Require instruction on a more personal basis than that regularly provided in high school.
 - 2. An alternative program may include:
- (a) A shorter school day, and an opportunity for pupils to attend a longer school day, than that regularly provided in high school.
- (b) An opportunity for pupils to attend classes of instruction during any part of the calendar year.
- (c) A comprehensive curriculum that includes elective classes of instruction and occupational education.
- (d) An opportunity for pupils to obtain academic credit through experience gained at work or while engaged in other activities.
 - (e) An opportunity for pupils to satisfy either:
 - (1) The requirements for a regular high school diploma; or
 - (2) The requirements for a high school diploma for adults.



(f) The provision of child care for the children of pupils.

2

5

6

8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21

22 23

24

25

26 27

29

30 31

33

34

35

36

38 39

40

41

42 43

44

- (g) The transportation of pupils to and from classes of instruction.
- (h) The temporary placement of pupils for independent study, if there are extenuating circumstances which prevent those pupils from attending the alternative program on a daily basis.
- 3. The board of trustees of a school district may operate an alternative program pursuant to this section through a program of distance education pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.

- Sec. 27. NRS 388.700 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388.700 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2, 3 and 6, after the last day of the first month of the school year, the ratio in each school district of pupils per class in kindergarten and grades 1, 2 and 3 per licensed teacher designated to teach those classes full time must not exceed 15 to 1 in classes where core curriculum is taught. In determining this ratio, all licensed educational personnel who teach kindergarten or grade 1, 2 or 3 must be counted except teachers of art, music, physical education or special education, counselors, librarians, administrators, deans and specialists.
- 2. A school district may, within the limits of any plan adopted pursuant to NRS 388.720, assign a pupil whose enrollment in a grade occurs after the last day of the first month of the school year to any existing class regardless of the number of pupils in the class.
- 3. The state board may grant to a school district a variance from the limitation on the number of pupils per class set forth in subsection 1 for good cause, including the lack of available financial support specifically
- set aside for the reduction of pupil-teacher ratios.

 4. The state board shall, on or before February 1 of each odd-
- numbered year, report to the legislature on:

 (a) Each variance granted by it during the preceding biennium, including the specific justification for the variance.
- (b) The data reported to it by the various school districts pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 388.710, including an explanation of that data, and the current pupil-teacher ratios per class in kindergarten and grades 1, 2 and 3.
- 5. The department shall, on or before November 15 of each year, report to the chief of the budget division of the department of administration and the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel
 - (a) The number of teachers employed;
- (b) The number of teachers employed in order to attain the ratio required by subsection 1;
 - (c) The number of pupils enrolled; and
- (d) The number of teachers assigned to teach in the same classroom with another teacher or in any other arrangement other than one teacher assigned to one classroom of pupils,
- during the current school year in kindergarten and grades 1, 2 and 3 for 46 47 each school district.



6. The provisions of this section do not apply to a charter school [...] or to a program of distance education provided pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 28. NRS 389.017 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.017 1. The state board shall prescribe regulations requiring that each board of trustees of a school district and each governing body of a charter school submit to the superintendent of public instruction and the department, in the form and manner prescribed by the superintendent, the results of achievement and proficiency examinations given in the 4th, 8th, 10th and 11th grades to public school pupils of the district and charter schools. The state board shall not include in the regulations any provision which would violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.

2. The results of examinations must be reported for each school, including, without limitation, each charter school, school district and this

state, as follows:

2

5

6

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

29 30

31

33

34

35

36

37 38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

47

- (a) The average score, as defined by the department, of pupils who took the examinations under regular testing conditions; and
- (b) The average score, as defined by the department, of pupils who took the examinations with modifications or accommodations approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the department created the examination, the department, if such reporting does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.
- 3. The department shall adopt regulations prescribing the requirements for reporting the scores of pupils who:
- (a) Took the examinations under conditions that were not approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the department created the examination, by the department;
 - (b) Are enrolled in special schools for children with disabilities;
- (c) Are enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school [;], including, without limitation, a program of distance education that is provided to pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act; or
 - (d) Are detained in a:
 - (1) Youth training center;
 - (2) Youth center;
 - (3) Juvenile forestry camp;
 - (4) Detention home;
 - (5) Youth camp;
 - (6) Juvenile correctional institution; or
 - (7) Correctional institution.

The scores reported pursuant to this subsection must not be included in the average scores reported pursuant to subsection 2.

4. Not later than 10 days after the department receives the results of the achievement and proficiency examinations, the department shall transmit a copy of the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 to the legislative bureau of educational accountability and



program evaluation in a manner that does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.

- 5. On or before November 1 of each year, each school district and each charter school shall report to the department the following information for each examination administered in the public schools in the school district or charter school:
 - (a) The examination administered;

- (b) The grade level or levels of pupils to whom the examination was administered;
- (c) The costs incurred by the school district or charter school in administering each examination; and
- (d) The purpose, if any, for which the results of the examination are used by the school district or charter school.
- On or before December 1 of each year, the department shall transmit to the budget division of the department of administration and the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau the information submitted to the department pursuant to this subsection.
- 6. The superintendent of schools of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall certify that the number of pupils who took the examinations required pursuant to NRS 389.015 is equal to the number of pupils who are enrolled in each school in the school district or in the charter school who are required to take the examinations except for those pupils who are exempt from taking the examinations. A pupil may be exempt from taking the examinations if:
- (a) His primary language is not English and his proficiency in the English language is below the level that the state board determines is proficient, as measured by an assessment of proficiency in the English language prescribed by the state board pursuant to subsection 8; or
- (b) He is enrolled in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, and his program of special education specifies that he is exempt from taking the examinations.
- 7. In addition to the information required by subsection 5, the superintendent of public instruction shall:
- (a) Report the number of pupils who were not exempt from taking the examinations but were absent from school on the day that the examinations were administered; and
- (b) Reconcile the number of pupils who were required to take the examinations with the number of pupils who were exempt from taking the examinations or absent from school on the day that the examinations were administered.
- 8. The state board shall prescribe an assessment of proficiency in the English language for pupils whose primary language is not English to determine which pupils are exempt from the examinations pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 6.
 - Sec. 29. NRS 389.560 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 389.560 1. The state board shall adopt regulations that require the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to submit to the superintendent of public instruction, the department and the council, in the form and manner prescribed by the



superintendent, the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550. The state board shall not include in the regulations any provision that would violate the confidentiality of the test scores of an individual pupil.

- 2. The results of the examinations must be reported for each school, including, without limitation, each charter school, school district and this state, as follows:
- (a) The percentage of pupils who have demonstrated proficiency, as defined by the department, and took the examinations under regular testing conditions; and
- (b) The percentage of pupils who have demonstrated proficiency, as defined by the department, and took the examinations with modifications or accommodations approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the department created the examination, the department, if such reporting does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.
- 3. The department shall adopt regulations prescribing the requirements for reporting the results of pupils who:
- (a) Took the examinations under conditions that were not approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the department created the examination, by the department;
 - (b) Are enrolled in special schools for children with disabilities;
- (c) Are enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school [;], including, without limitation, a program of distance education that is provided to pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act; or
 - (d) Are detained in a:

- (1) Youth training center;
- (2) Youth center;
- (3) Juvenile forestry camp;
- (4) Detention home;
- (5) Youth camp;
 - (6) Juvenile correctional institution; or
 - (7) Correctional institution.

The results reported pursuant to this subsection must not be included in the percentage of pupils reported pursuant to subsection 2.

- 4. Not later than 10 days after the department receives the results of the examinations, the department shall transmit a copy of the results to the legislative bureau of educational accountability and program evaluation in a manner that does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.
- 5. On or before November 1 of each year, each school district and each charter school shall report to the department the following information for each examination administered in the public schools in the school district or charter school:
 - (a) The examination administered;
- (b) The grade level or levels of pupils to whom the examination was administered;



(c) The costs incurred by the school district or charter school in administering each examination; and

2

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21 22

23

24

25

26 27

29

30

31 32

33

34

35

36 37

38

39

40 41

42

43

44

45

46 47

48

- (d) The purpose, if any, for which the results of the examination are used by the school district or charter school.
- On or before December 1 of each year, the department shall transmit to the budget division of the department of administration and the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau the information submitted to the department pursuant to this subsection.
- 6. The superintendent of schools of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall certify that the number of pupils who took the examinations is equal to the number of pupils who are enrolled in each school in the school district or in the charter school who are required to take the examinations, except for those pupils who are exempt from taking the examinations. A pupil may be exempt from taking the examinations if:
- (a) His primary language is not English and his proficiency in the English language is below the level that the state board determines is proficient, as measured by an assessment of proficiency in the English language prescribed by the state board pursuant to subsection 8; or

(b) He is enrolled in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, and his program of special education

specifies that he is exempt from taking the examinations.

- 7. In addition to the information required by subsection 5, the superintendent of public instruction shall:
- (a) Report the number of pupils who were not exempt from taking the examinations but were absent from school on the day that the examinations were administered; and
- (b) Reconcile the number of pupils who were required to take the examinations with the number of pupils who were exempt from taking the examinations or absent from school on the day that the examinations were
- The state board shall prescribe an assessment of proficiency in the English language for pupils whose primary language is not English to determine which pupils are exempt from the examinations pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 6.
 - Sec. 30. NRS 391.170 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.170 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a teacher or other employee for whom a license is required is not entitled to receive any portion of public money for schools as compensation for services rendered
- (a) He is legally employed by the board of trustees of the school district or the governing body of the charter school in which he is teaching or performing other educational functions.
- (b) He has a license authorizing him to teach or perform other educational functions at the level and in the field for which he is employed, issued in accordance with law and in full force at the time the services are rendered.
- 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not prohibit the payment of public money to teachers or other employees who are employed by a charter



school *for a whom a license is not required* pursuant to the provisions of NRS 386.590. [and 386.595.]

Sec. 31. NRS 391.31965 is hereby amended to read as follows:

 391.31965 Any postprobationary employee of a school district of Nevada who is employed by another school district *or charter school* must be allowed to continue as a postprobationary employee and must not be required to serve the probationary period required by subsection 1 of NRS 391.3197.

Sec. 32. NRS 392.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

392.010 Except as to the attendance of a pupil pursuant to NRS 392.015 *or sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act,* or a pupil who is ineligible for attendance pursuant to NRS 392.4675 and except as otherwise provided in NRS 392.264 and 392.268:

- 1. The board of trustees of any school district may, with the approval of the superintendent of public instruction:
- (a) Admit to the school or schools of the school district any pupil or pupils living in an adjoining school district within this state or in an adjoining state when the school district of residence in the adjoining state adjoins the receiving Nevada school district; or
- (b) Pay tuition for pupils residing in the school district but who attend school in an adjoining school district within this state or in an adjoining state when the receiving district in the adjoining state adjoins the school district of Nevada residence.
- 2. With the approval of the superintendent of public instruction, the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil or pupils reside and the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil or pupils attend school shall enter into an agreement providing for the payment of such tuition as may be agreed upon, but transportation costs must be paid by the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil or pupils reside:
- (a) If any are incurred in transporting a pupil or pupils to an adjoining school district within the state; and
- (b) If any are incurred in transporting a pupil or pupils to an adjoining state, as provided by the agreement.
- 3. In addition to the provisions for the payment of tuition and transportation costs for pupils admitted to an adjoining school district as provided in subsection 2, the agreement may contain provisions for the payment of reasonable amounts of money to defray the cost of operation, maintenance and depreciation of capital improvements which can be allocated to such pupils.
 - **Sec. 33.** NRS 392.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.035 1. In determining the mobility of pupils in a school, for any purpose, the department shall divide the sum of the following numbers by the cumulative enrollment in the school:
- (a) The number of late entries or transfers into a school from another school, school district or state, after the beginning of the school year;
- (b) The number of pupils reentering the school after having withdrawn from the same school; and



(c) The number of pupils who withdraw for any reason or who are dropped for nonattendance.

- 2. To determine the cumulative enrollment of the school pursuant to subsection 1, the department shall add the total number of pupils enrolled in programs of instruction in the school who are included in the count for apportionment purposes pursuant to paragraphs (a) [,(b), (e), (e) and (f)] to (e), inclusive, (g) and (h) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.123 and the number of pupils included in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1.
- 3. The department shall develop and distribute to the county school districts a form upon which the information necessary to the formula may be submitted by the individual schools.
 - **Sec. 34.** NRS 392.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.070 1. Attendance required by the provisions of NRS 392.040 must be excused when satisfactory written evidence is presented to the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides that the child is receiving at home or in some other school equivalent instruction of the kind and amount approved by the state board.
- 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall provide programs of special education and related services for children who are exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to subsection 1 and receive instruction at home. The programs of special education and related services required by this section must be made available:
- (a) Only if a child would otherwise be eligible for participation in programs of special education and related services pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive;
- (b) In the same manner that the board of trustees provides, as required by 20 U.S.C. § 1412, for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians; and
- (c) In accordance with the same requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1412 which relate to the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 for programs of special education and related services [1] and this subsection for programs of distance education, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a child who is enrolled in a private school or who receives instruction at home, the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides shall authorize the child to participate in a class that is not available to the child at the private school or home school or participate in an extracurricular activity, excluding sports, at a public school within the school district if:
- (a) Space for the child in the class or extracurricular activity is available; and
- (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the child is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity.
- If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to this



subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the child to attend the class or activity. The board of trustees of a school district shall not authorize a child to participate in a class or activity through a program of distance education provided by the school district pursuant to sections 16 to 24, inclusive, of this act.

4. The board of trustees of a school district may revoke its approval for a pupil to participate in a class or extracurricular activity at a public school pursuant to subsection 3 if the board of trustees or the public school determines that the pupil has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations of the board of trustees. If the board of trustees revokes its approval, neither the board of trustees nor the public school are liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the pupil.

5. The programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2 may be offered at a public school or another location that is

appropriate.

- 6. The department may adopt such regulations as are necessary for the boards of trustees of school districts to provide the programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2.
- 7. As used in this section, "related services" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 1401(22).

Sec. 35. NRS 281.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

281.210 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is unlawful for any person acting as a school trustee, *member of the governing body of a charter school*, state, township, municipal or county officer, or as an employing authority of the University and Community College System of Nevada, any school district, *charter school* or of the state, any town, city or county, or for any state or local board, agency or commission, elected or appointed, to employ in any capacity on behalf of the State of Nevada, or any county, township, municipality, [or] school district *or charter school* thereof, or the University and Community College System of Nevada, any relative of such a person or of any member of such a board, *governing body*, agency or commission who is within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity.

2. This section does not apply:

- (a) To school districts, when the teacher or other school employee is not related to more than one of the trustees or person who is an employing authority by consanguinity or affinity and receives a unanimous vote of all members of the board of trustees and approval by the state department of education.
- (b) To school districts, when the teacher or other school employee has been employed by an abolished school district or educational district, which constitutes a part of the employing county school district, and the county school district for 4 years or more before April 1, 1957.
- (c) To the spouse of the warden of an institution or manager of a facility of the department of prisons.
 - (d) To the spouse of the superintendent of the Caliente youth center.
- (e) To relatives of blind officers and employees of the bureau of services to the blind and visually impaired of the rehabilitation division of



the department of employment, training and rehabilitation when those relatives are employed as automobile drivers for those officers and employees.

- (f) To relatives of a member of a town board of a town whose population is less than 300.
 - 3. Nothing in this section:

- (a) Prevents any officer in this state, employed under a flat salary, from employing any suitable person to assist in any such employment, when the payment for the service is met out of the personal money of the officer.
- (b) Disqualifies any widow with a dependent as an employee of any officer or board in this state, or any of its counties, townships, municipalities or school districts.
- 4. A person employed contrary to the provisions of this section must not be compensated for the employment.
- 5. Any person violating any provisions of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.
 - **Sec. 36.** NRS 288.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.060 "Local government employer" means any political subdivision of this state or any public or quasi-public corporation organized under the laws of this state and includes, without limitation, counties, cities, unincorporated towns, *charter schools*, school districts, hospital districts, irrigation districts and other special districts.

Sec. 37. Section 60 of chapter 606, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 3324, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 60. 1. This section and sections 56 and 57 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

- 2. Sections 1 to 12, inclusive, 13 to 16, inclusive, 18 to 24, inclusive, 26 to 45, inclusive, 47 to 54, inclusive, and 58 and 59 of this act become effective on July 1, 1999.
- 3. Sections 17, 25 and 46 of this act become effective at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 1999.
 - 4. Section 12.5 of this act becomes effective on July 1, [2001.
 - 5. Section 55 of this act becomes effective on July 1,1 2003.
- **Sec. 38.** The amendatory provisions of section 8 of this act do not affect any right to representation that an employee of a charter school acquired before July 1, 2001, by virtue of his membership in an employee organization
- **Sec. 39.** 1. On or before April 1, 2002, the state board of education shall adopt regulations required by section 24 of this act.
- 2. If any deadlines contained within the regulations adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 24 of this act prohibit the board of trustees of a school district or governing body of a charter school from submitting an application to provide a program of distance education for the 2002-2003 school year, the department of education shall grant a shorter period for the board of trustees or governing body to submit an application for the 2002-2003 school year notwithstanding the provisions of those regulations.
- **Sec. 40.** The amendatory provisions of this act do not apply to offenses committed before July 1, 2001.



- Sec. 41. Section 55 of chapter 606, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 3322, is hereby repealed. 2
- Sec. 42. 1. This section and sections 1 to 5, inclusive, 7, 8, 9, 24, 28 to 31, inclusive, and 35 to 41, inclusive, of this act, become effective on July 1, 2001.

 2. Sections 6, 10 to 23, inclusive, 25, 26, 27, 32, 33 and 34 of this act 4 5
- become effective on July 1, 2002.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

Section 55 of chapter 606, Statutes of Nevada 1999:

Sec. 55.NRS 386.510 is hereby repealed.



