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FIRST REPRINT

EXEMPT

S.B. 427

SENATE BILL NO. 427—COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(ON BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION—BUDGET DIVISION)

MARCH 21, 2001

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes appropriations for educational technology and signing bonuses for teachers. (BDR S-1349)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT relating to education; making appropriations to the Department of Education for educational technology and for signing bonuses for teachers; making an appropriation to the legislative fund for use by the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation for an evaluation of educational technology; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general
2 fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$9,950,000 for educational
3 technology.
4 2. The Department of Education shall distribute the money
5 appropriated by subsection 1 as follows:
6 (a) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant money to
7 local school districts for schools within the school district to acquire the
8 minimal level of educational technology that is necessary to provide a
9 networked computer for each classroom, as recommended by the
10 Commission:
11 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$1,250,000
12 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$1,250,000
13 (b) For the Commission on Educational Technology to provide grants to
14 local school districts for the repair, replacement or upgrade of computer
15 hardware and software, including, without limitation, contracts for
16 maintenance:
17 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$2,500,000
18 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$2,500,000



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- 1 (c) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to local
2 school districts for hardware, software and contracting services to provide
3 or enhance technical support to the school districts:
- 4 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$625,000
5 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$625,000
- 6 (d) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to local
7 school districts for pilot programs that demonstrate best practices for the
8 use of educational technology to improve the achievement of pupils:
- 9 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$150,000
10 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$150,000
- 11 (e) For the Commission on Educational Technology to distribute for the
12 KLVX Distance Learning Satellite Service..... \$400,000
- 13 (f) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to the
14 Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Museums,
15 Library and Arts for licenses to allow school libraries access to research
16 databases and other on-line resources appropriate for pupils \$500,000
- 17 3. The sums appropriated by paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of
18 subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums
19 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to
20 the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have
21 been made.
- 22 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by paragraphs (e)
23 and (f) of subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June
24 30, 2003, and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of
25 money committed have been made.
- 26 **Sec. 2.** 1. To receive a grant of money pursuant to section 1 of this
27 act, a school district must:
- 28 (a) Complete forms provided by the Superintendent of Public
29 Instruction.
- 30 (b) Submit a written request to the Commission on Educational
31 Technology that identifies the schools within the school district which need
32 educational technology and the financial needs of those schools to obtain
33 the educational technology.
- 34 (c) Submit a plan to the Commission on Educational Technology for the
35 use of educational technology to improve the instruction and academic
36 achievement of pupils, based upon the most recent version of the plan
37 adopted by the Commission pursuant to NRS 388.795 for the use of
38 educational technology in the public schools of this state. A school district
39 may, as part of its plan and upon approval of the Commission, elect to use
40 refurbished computers that do not meet the technical standards established
41 by the Commission.
- 42 (d) Submit a plan for evaluation in accordance with guidelines
43 submitted by the Commission on Educational Technology that includes the
44 effectiveness of the use of educational technology in improving the
45 academic achievement of pupils.
- 46 (e) Provide any additional information requested by the Commission on
47 Educational Technology.
- 48 2. The Commission on Educational Technology shall determine the
49 amount of money that must be distributed to school districts based upon the



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1 needs of each school district and the wealth of the school district relative to
2 the other school districts in this state.

3 3. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 1
4 of this act shall:

5 (a) Account for the money separately; and

6 (b) Use the money to supplement, and not replace, the money that the
7 school district would otherwise expend for educational technology.

8 4. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 1
9 of this act shall not use the money to:

10 (a) Settle or arbitrate disputes or negotiate settlements between an
11 organization that represents licensed employees of the school district and
12 the school district.

13 (b) Adjust the schedules of salaries and benefits of the employees of the
14 school district.

15 5. On or before January 1, 2003, each school district that receives a
16 grant of money pursuant to section 1 of this act shall submit to the
17 Department of Education and the Commission on Educational Technology
18 a written report in the format required by the Department. The report must
19 include, without limitation:

20 (a) A statement of the amount of money distributed to the school district
21 pursuant to section 1 of this act;

22 (b) A record of the manner in which the money was expended;

23 (c) The purposes of each such expenditure; and

24 (d) Any other expenditures for similar purposes from other money
25 available to the school district.

26 6. On or before February 1, 2003, the Department of Education shall
27 submit a written summary to the Governor, the Commission on
28 Educational Technology and the Director of the Legislative Counsel
29 Bureau for transmission to the 72nd session of the Nevada Legislature. The
30 written summary must include, without limitation:

31 (a) The name of each school district that received a grant of money
32 pursuant to section 1 of this act; and

33 (b) A compilation of the reports submitted to the Department pursuant
34 to subsection 5.

35 **Sec. 3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
36 to the legislative fund created by NRS 218.085 the sum of \$50,000 for use
37 by the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program
38 Evaluation to hire a qualified, independent consultant to conduct an
39 evaluation of educational technology.

40 2. The Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program
41 Evaluation shall, after consulting with the Commission on Educational
42 Technology, use the money appropriated by subsection 1 to hire a
43 qualified, independent consultant to conduct an evaluation of the
44 effectiveness of educational technology in improving the achievement of
45 pupils, to identify issues relating to the implementation of educational
46 technology and to identify best practices relating to the use of educational
47 technology to improve the achievement of pupils.

48 3. The consultant shall provide to the Legislative Committee on
49 Education, upon the request of the Committee, an interim report of the



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1 progress of the consultant. On or before February 1, 2003, the consultant
2 hired pursuant to subsection 2 shall submit a written report of the results of
3 his evaluation to the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and
4 Program Evaluation. On or before February 19, 2003, the Legislative
5 Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation shall submit
6 a copy of the written report and any recommendations for legislation to the
7 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 72nd
8 session of the Nevada Legislature.

9 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1
10 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to
11 the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have
12 been made.

13 **Sec. 4.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
14 to the Department of Education the sum of \$10,000,000 to provide signing
15 bonuses to teachers who are newly hired by school districts for the 2001-
16 2002 school year and the 2002-2003 school year. A newly hired teacher
17 may not receive a signing bonus until he has taught for a school district in
18 this state for at least 30 days. A teacher may not receive more than one
19 signing bonus pursuant to this section. A teacher who teaches for a school
20 district in this state before the effective date of this act and who
21 subsequently transfers to another school district in this state is not eligible
22 to receive a signing bonus pursuant to this section.

23 2. A school district that wishes to provide signing bonuses to its newly
24 hired teachers shall submit information to the Department of Education, in
25 a format prescribed by the Department, concerning the number of teachers
26 who are newly hired by the school district to teach for the 2001-2002
27 school year and the 2002-2003 school year. A school district shall submit a
28 request for each fiscal year that it wishes to provide signing bonuses
29 pursuant to this section.

30 3. The Department of Education shall use the money appropriated by
31 subsection 1 to provide signing bonuses to teachers who are newly hired
32 for the 2001-2002 school year and the 2002-2003 school year. The
33 Department shall analyze the total number of newly hired teachers for the
34 2001-2002 school year and determine the total amount of money to be
35 allocated for fiscal year 2001-2002 in a manner which will ensure that an
36 adequate amount of money is available for signing bonuses for fiscal year
37 2002-2003. If necessary, the Department shall adjust the amount of each
38 signing bonus for fiscal year 2001-2002 to ensure that an adequate amount
39 of money is available to provide signing bonuses to newly hired teachers
40 for fiscal year 2002-2003. The amount of a bonus paid to each teacher:

41 (a) In fiscal year 2001-2002 must not exceed \$2,000.

42 (b) In fiscal year 2002-2003 must not exceed \$2,500.

43 4. No additional money will be appropriated by the Legislature for the
44 purpose of providing signing bonuses for teachers for the 2001-2003
45 biennium.

46 5. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1
47 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to
48 the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have
49 been made.



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1 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

