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SECOND 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, textbooks 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, textbooks and 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 \$2,450,000 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 to local
7 school districts for hardware, software and contracting services to provide
8 or enhance technical support to the school districts:
9 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$625,000
10 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$625,000
11 (b) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to local
12 school districts for pilot programs that demonstrate best practices for the
13 use of educational technology to improve the achievement of pupils:
14 (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002 \$150,000
15 (2) For the fiscal year 2002-2003 \$150,000
16 (c) For the Commission on Educational Technology to distribute for the
17 KLVX Distance Learning Service..... \$400,000
18 (d) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to the
19 Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Cultural



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1 Affairs for licenses to allow public schools and libraries access to research
2 databases and other on-line resources appropriate for pupils \$500,000
3 3. The sums appropriated by paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 are
4 available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not be
5 committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to the state
6 general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
7 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by paragraphs (c)
8 and (d) of subsection 2 must not be committed for expenditure after June
9 30, 2003, and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of
10 money committed have been made.
11 **Sec. 2.** 1. To receive a grant of money pursuant to paragraphs (a)
12 and (b) of subsection 1 of section 1 of this act, a school district must:
13 (a) Complete forms provided by the Superintendent of Public
14 Instruction.
15 (b) Submit a written request to the Commission on Educational
16 Technology that identifies the schools within the school district which need
17 educational technology and the financial needs of those schools to obtain
18 the educational technology.
19 (c) Submit a plan to the Commission on Educational Technology for the
20 use of educational technology to improve the instruction and academic
21 achievement of pupils, based upon the most recent version of the plan
22 adopted by the Commission pursuant to NRS 388.795 for the use of
23 educational technology in the public schools of this state. A school district
24 may, as part of its plan and upon approval of the Commission, elect to use
25 refurbished computers that do not meet the technical standards established
26 by the Commission.
27 (d) Submit a plan for evaluation in accordance with guidelines
28 submitted by the Commission on Educational Technology that includes the
29 effectiveness of the use of educational technology in improving the
30 academic achievement of pupils.
31 (e) Provide any additional information requested by the Commission on
32 Educational Technology.
33 2. The Commission on Educational Technology shall determine the
34 amount of money that must be distributed to school districts based upon the
35 needs of each school district and the wealth of the school district relative to
36 the other school districts in this state.
37 3. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 1
38 of this act shall:
39 (a) Account for the money separately; and
40 (b) Use the money to supplement, and not replace, the money that the
41 school district would otherwise expend for educational technology.
42 4. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 1
43 of this act shall not use the money to:
44 (a) Settle or arbitrate disputes or negotiate settlements between an
45 organization that represents licensed employees of the school district and
46 the school district.
47 (b) Adjust the schedules of salaries and benefits of the employees of the
48 school district.



1 5. On or before January 1, 2003, each school district that receives a
2 grant of money pursuant to section 1 of this act shall submit to the
3 Department of Education and the Commission on Educational Technology
4 a written report in the format required by the Department. The report must
5 include, without limitation:
6 (a) A statement of the amount of money distributed to the school district
7 pursuant to section 1 of this act;
8 (b) A record of the manner in which the money was expended;
9 (c) The purposes of each such expenditure; and
10 (d) Any other expenditures for similar purposes from other money
11 available to the school district.
12 6. On or before February 1, 2003, the Department of Education shall
13 submit a written summary to the Governor, the Commission on
14 Educational Technology and the Director of the Legislative Counsel
15 Bureau for transmission to the 72nd session of the Nevada Legislature. The
16 written summary must include, without limitation:
17 (a) The name of each school district that received a grant of money
18 pursuant to section 1 of this act; and
19 (b) A compilation of the reports submitted to the Department pursuant
20 to subsection 5.
21 **Sec. 3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
22 to the legislative fund created by NRS 218.085 the sum of \$50,000 for use
23 by the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program
24 Evaluation to hire a qualified, independent consultant to conduct an
25 evaluation of educational technology.
26 2. The Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program
27 Evaluation shall, after consulting with the Commission on Educational
28 Technology, use the money appropriated by subsection 1 to hire a
29 qualified, independent consultant to conduct an evaluation of the
30 effectiveness of educational technology in improving the achievement of
31 pupils, to identify issues relating to the implementation of educational
32 technology and to identify best practices relating to the use of educational
33 technology to improve the achievement of pupils.
34 3. The consultant shall provide to the Legislative Committee on
35 Education, upon the request of the Committee, an interim report of the
36 progress of the consultant. On or before February 1, 2003, the consultant
37 hired pursuant to subsection 2 shall submit a written report of the results of
38 his evaluation to the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and
39 Program Evaluation. On or before February 19, 2003, the Legislative
40 Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation shall submit
41 a copy of the written report and any recommendations for legislation to the
42 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 72nd
43 session of the Nevada Legislature.
44 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1
45 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to
46 the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have
47 been made.



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1 **Sec. 3.5.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
2 to the Department of Education for textbooks and workbooks:
3 For the fiscal year 2001-2002..... \$3,750,000
4 For the fiscal year 2002-2003..... \$3,750,000
5 2. The board of trustees of a school district may submit an application
6 to the Department of Education for an allocation of money pursuant to this
7 section. The application must include, without limitation, a plan that sets
8 forth the manner in which the school district will use the money to:
9 (a) Eliminate the use of shared classroom book sets in the public
10 schools within the school district which must remain in the classroom; and
11 (b) Provide each pupil enrolled in a public school of the school district
12 with a textbook for each class in which a textbook is used and an
13 accompanying workbook, if applicable, that the pupil may use at home for
14 educational purposes.
15 The plan must include a detailed description of the grade levels and subject
16 areas for which the textbooks and workbooks will be purchased.
17 3. Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection 2, the
18 Department of Education shall review the application and make
19 recommendations jointly with the Budget Division of the Department of
20 Administration and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability
21 and Program Evaluation. The joint recommendation of the amount of the
22 allocation must be transmitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction
23 for his consideration. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall
24 determine the amount of the allocation for each school district whose
25 application is approved for the 2001-2002 fiscal year and the 2002-2003
26 fiscal year. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is not bound to follow
27 the joint recommendation.
28 4. A school district that receives an allocation of money pursuant to
29 this section shall use the money for each school year that the school district
30 receives an allocation to:
31 (a) Purchase a sufficient number of textbooks and accompanying
32 workbooks, if applicable, to eliminate the use of classroom book sets and
33 to provide each pupil enrolled in a public school of the school district with
34 a textbook for each class in which a textbook is used and an accompanying
35 workbook that the pupil may take home for educational purposes.
36 (b) Supplement and not replace the amount of money that the school
37 district would otherwise expend for the purchase of textbooks and
38 workbooks.
39 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 387.207 to the contrary, a
40 school district that receives an allocation of money pursuant to this section
41 shall expend, for the purchase of textbooks and workbooks for each school
42 year that it receives an allocation, an amount of money that is at least equal
43 to the average amount of money that was expended per pupil by the school
44 district in the school year immediately preceding the school year for which
45 the allocation is made for the purchase of textbooks and workbooks, not
46 including the amount of money received from a previous allocation
47 pursuant to this section.
48 6. The Department of Education shall submit a written report setting
49 forth the uses of the money by school districts that received allocations and



1 evaluating the effectiveness of those uses in eliminating the use of
2 classroom book sets in schools. The written report must be submitted to the
3 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on or before February 1, 2003,
4 for transmission to the 72nd session of the Nevada Legislature.

5 7. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for either fiscal
6 year. Any balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure
7 after June 30, 2003, and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all
8 payments of money committed have been made.

9 **Sec. 4.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
10 to the Department of Education the sum of \$10,000,000 to provide signing
11 bonuses to teachers who are newly hired by school districts for the 2001-
12 2002 school year and the 2002-2003 school year. A teacher may not
13 receive more than one signing bonus pursuant to this section. A teacher
14 who teaches for a school district in this state before the effective date of
15 this act and who subsequently transfers to another school district in this
16 state is not eligible to receive a signing bonus pursuant to this section.

17 2. A teacher may not receive a signing bonus:

18 (a) Until he has taught for a school district in this state for at least 30
19 days; and

20 (b) Unless he submits a written statement indicating that the teacher
21 understands that if he does not teach in a public school in this state for at
22 least 2 years after the date on which he receives the signing bonus, he will
23 be required to repay the signing bonus in full to the Department of
24 Education.

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

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

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

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

45 5. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a teacher who
46 receives a signing bonus pursuant to this section does not teach in a public
47 school in this state for at least 2 years after the date on which he received
48 the signing bonus, the teacher shall repay the full amount of the signing
49 bonus to the Department of Education. The Department of Education shall



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1 grant a waiver to a teacher from the repayment required by this subsection
2 if the teacher received satisfactory evaluations but was not reemployed by
3 the school district.
4 6. No additional money will be appropriated by the Legislature for the
5 purpose of providing signing bonuses for teachers for the 2001-2003
6 biennium.
7 7. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1
8 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to
9 the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have
10 been made.
11 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

