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### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 266-COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

# (ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS)

### MARCH 10, 2003

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing education and makes appropriations for education. (BDR 34-903)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Contains Appropriations not included in Executive Budget.

EXPLANATION - Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets <del>[omitted material]</del> is material to be omitted.

Green numbers along left margin indicate location on the printed bill (e.g., S-15 indicates page 5, line 15).

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Superintendent of Public Instruction to prepare a compilation of certain information for inclusion in the biennial budgetary request for the State Distributive School Account; requiring each school district to maintain a certain percentage in the ending balance of the general fund of the school district; revising provisions governing the calculation of basic support for pupils who are enrolled in kindergarten for a full school day; authorizing school districts to develop alternative plans for the reduction of pupil-teacher ratios in certain grades; requiring that the annual base salary of teachers and other licensed educational personnel must be cumulatively increased each year by a certain percentage; providing that certain children who are at risk must be admitted to kindergarten for a full school day; making various appropriations for education

and educational personnel; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- <sup>24</sup> Section 1. Chapter 385 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 2-3 1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall compile the 2-4 biennial budgetary request for the State Distributive School 2-5 Account prepared by the Department. In compiling the request, 2-6 the Superintendent shall take into account, without limitation: 2-7 (a) The projected enrollment of pupils for each school district
- 24 (a) The projected enroument of pupils for each school district
  24 and for the school districts as a whole;
  24 (b) The projected costs of salaries and benefits for existing and
- 240 newly hired teachers, and for other school district employees,
  241 including, without limitation, the cost of merit increases and the
  242 cost of living adjustments recommended by the Superintendent of
  243 Public Instruction;
- 2-14 (c) The projected costs of supplies, equipment, services, fuel
  2-15 and utilities based upon such published indices, reports and
  2-16 research as the Superintendent of Public Instruction considers are
  2-17 credible and reliable regarding those costs to schools;
- 2-18 (d) The projected cost of existing and proposed educational 2-19 programs, including, without limitation, enhancements to existing 2-20 programs that are not included in the per pupil basic support 2-21 guarantee; and
- (e) The revenue that is anticipated to be available for the general operations of school districts other than money available from the State General Fund.
- 2.25 2. The compilation prepared pursuant to subsection 1 must be included with the biennial budgetary request for the State Distributive School Account prepared by the Department.

Whereas the Nevada State Constitution states that the legislature shall provide for the support and maintenance of public schools by direct legislative appropriation from the general fund; and

Whereas the role of public education is crucial to the development of an educated work force to serve the economy of the State of Nevada; and

Whereas the Nevada Association of School Superintendents and the Nevada Association of School Boards have proposed a long-term vision called *iNVest* to improve the academic achievement of K-12 students enrolled in the State's public education system; and

Whereas the Nevada State Legislature has worked with the Governor and educators in passing legislation to support funding to implement various proposals of *iNVest* and will continue to work toward increased financial support of public education; now therefore, be it

Resolved that in future sessions of the Nevada State Legislature, the elements of *iNVest* shall be considered a blueprint of measures that could be implemented to improve student achievement; and

Be it further resolved that the Nevada State Legislature shall recognize the need for school districts to have adequate basic support, which would include providing for inflationary costs for non-salaried expenditures; increasing funding for books, supplies and equipment, adequate funding for English Language Learners programs, and requiring districts to maintain an adequate ending fund balance; and

Be it further resolved that the Nevada State Legislature shall assist districts to attract and retain an adequate work force by providing funding for cost of living adjustments, adequate health benefits for employees, funding for high impact and special need areas for teachers; and

Be it further resolved that the Nevada State Legislature shall recognize the need to increase instructional time for students, particularly as standards for students are increased, by adding additional days to the school year, funding full-day kindergarten, beginning with at-risk students, funding summer school, after-school, and tutorial programs for students who need additional opportunities to reach the standards set by the legislature; and

Be it further resolved that the Nevada State Legislature shall support increased educational opportunities for students by funding work force preparation programs, enhancing classroom discipline, and class size; and

Be it further resolved that the State Board of Education, the Governor and the Nevada State Legislature shall continue to work in partnership with the Nevada Association of School Superintendents and the Nevada Association of School Boards to continue to develop and implement educational strategies designed to improve student achievement for Nevada's K-12 student population.