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SECTION ANALYSIS OF SENATE BILL 376

Sections 3-7	Contain definitions of terms.
Section 8	Requires the Nevada Department of Education to adopt regulations for the <i>Program of Voucher Schools</i> to be administered by the Department.
Section 9	Provides for applications by private schools to be certified as "voucher schools" and the conditions thereof, including no discrimination and no tuition for low-income children.
Section 10	Sets forth procedure for certification of private schools as voucher schools.
Section 11	Provides for revocation of certification.
Section 12	Sets forth the obligations of certified voucher schools.
Section 13	Sets forth the application requirements for parents to participate in program, including that the student is enrolled in a school demonstrating need for improvement for 3 years; or the student is from a low-income family. Provides that parents must reapply each year and may withdraw at any time.
Section 14	Provides for an application to attend a voucher school.
Section 15	Allows student to "opt-out" of religious activities or classes.
Section 16	Sets forth the procedure for verification of enrollment of approved students in voucher schools and for issuance of the voucher to the parent for restrictive endorsement to the voucher school. Further provides that the amount of the voucher is the per-pupil amount or the tuition, whichever is less. Allows the Department to request reimbursement from the voucher school for administrative costs up to one percent of the money apportioned in the first year and up to one-half of one percent thereafter.
Section 29	Permits certain students to attend a school other than their zoned school under certain circumstances.
Section 31	Permits students to make application to attend another public school in the state if the student is from a school demonstrating need for improvement for 3 years; or the student is from a low-income family. Provides procedures for approval of such applications and related matters, including random selection if applications for a school exceed capacity.
Section 36	Clarifies that the bill does not interfere with religious instruction in a voucher school or permit voucher schools to otherwise receive public school money.
Section 37	Clarifies that a voucher school is not a political subdivision or public entity.
Section 40	Requires Department to adopt regulations by January 1, 2004.
Section 41	Provides for voucher schools to commence operation in the 2004-2005 School Year.
Sections 1,2, 17-28, 30, 32-35, 38, 39, 42	Makes corresponding statutory references and changes consistent with voucher program and school choice provisions.

Prepared by Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau
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EXHIBIT I Committee on Finance

Date: 4/10/03 Page 1 of 1