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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL NO. 340

PREPARED FOR SENATOR CEGAVSKE APRIL 11, 2003

PREPARED BY THE RESEARCH DIVISION

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SHOWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN CONCEPTUAL FORM. THE LANGUAGE AND ITS PLACEMENT IN THE OFFICIAL AMENDMENT MAY DIFFER,

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) blue bold italics is new language in the original bill; (2) green bold italic underlining is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) red strikethrough is deleted language in the original bill; (4) green bold double strikethrough is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment and (5) green bold dashed underlining is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment.

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

Section 1. Chapter 387 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

The parent or legal guardian of a pupil with a disability, who is enrolled in a public school in this state and for whom an individualized education program has been established, who is dissatisfied with the progress that the pupil is making pursuant to that program and for whom services cannot be provided may request a scholarship pursuant to this section for the pupil to enroll in and attend a private school whose purpose is teaching and attend a private school whose purpose is teaching children with special needs.

2. A pupil with a disability is eligible for a scholarship pursuant to

this section if:

13 (a) The pupil was enrolled in, and included in the count of pupils 14 for apportionment purposes for, a public school in this state during the previous school year; 15 16

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(b) A private school which is located in this state and eligible to

accept the scholarship has accepted the pupil for admission; and
(c) The parent or legal guardian of the pupil notifies the
Department, in the manner required by the Department, of his request

for a scholarship before the pupil enters the private school.

3. The amount of a scholarship provided to a pupil with a disability pursuant to this section is equal to:

(a) The sum of the basic support plus the amount of local funds available pursuant to NRS 387.1235 plus all other money the State would be required to pay for that pupil to the public school to which the pupil would otherwise be assigned; or

> **EXHIBIT H** Senate Committee on Finance Date: 4/15/03 Page / of 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SB340

(b) The amount of the tuition and fees of the private school, whichever is less.

4. If the Department determines that a pupil is eligible to receive a scholarship, the Department shall provide notification of its determination to the parent or legal guardian of the pupil and the private school in which the pupil will be enrolled. Scholarships must be disbursed quarterly on August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1. Payment of a scholarship must be made by individual warrant made payable to the parent or legal guardian of the pupil receiving the scholarship and mailed to the private school in which the pupil will be or is enrolled. The parent or legal guardian shall restrictively endorse the warrant to the private school for deposit into the account of the private school.

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A pupil with a disability may continue to receive the scholarship provided by this section as long as the pupil is enrolled in good standing in the private school. Before renewing a scholarship to the pupil for any subsequent school year, the Department may require the private school or the parent or legal guardian of the pupil to provide such documentation as deemed necessary by the Department demonstrating that the pupil has been enrolled in good standing in the private school during the previous school year. A scholarship is forfeited if a pupil or his parent or legal guardian fails to comply with this subsection.

6. Notwithstanding any provision of this title to the contrary, the election of a private school to accept scholarship money pursuant to this section, and the acceptance of such scholarship money, does not expand the regulatory authority of the Department over the private school beyond that authority necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

7. There is no liability on the part of, and no cause of action of any nature arises against, the State of Nevada or any state employee based on the award or use of a scholarship pursuant to this section.

The Department may adopt such regulations as are necessary to

carry out the provisions of this section.

9. As used in this section, "individualized education program" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 1414(d)(1)(A).

This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.