

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT making appropriations to restore the balance in the Contingency Fund and to assist school districts in paying for health insurance for their employees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

**Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Contingency Fund created by NRS 353.266 the sum of \$8,092,456 to restore and increase the balance in the Contingency Fund attributable to the State General Fund to \$12,000,000.

2. There is hereby appropriated from the State Highway Fund to the Contingency Fund created by NRS 353.266 the sum of \$1,889,536 to restore the balance in the Contingency Fund attributable to the State Highway Fund to \$2,000,000. The money appropriated in this subsection must be accounted for separately and may only be used for expenditures that may be properly made from the State Highway Fund.

**Sec. 2.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Interim Finance Committee the sum of \$5,800,000 to provide allocations to school districts that incur unexpected expenses related to providing health insurance for their employees during the 2003-2005 biennium. No additional appropriation will be made for this purpose. The money appropriated pursuant to this subsection must not be used to negotiate the salaries of educational personnel.

2. The State Board of Examiners shall adopt policies, procedures and criteria for the review of requests for allocations pursuant to subsection 3. Upon the adoption of such policies, procedures and criteria, the State Board of Examiners shall transmit a copy of the policies, procedures and criteria to the Interim Finance Committee for approval. Upon approval of the policies, procedures and criteria, the Interim Finance Committee shall transmit a copy of the policies, procedures and criteria to the Department of Education. The policies, procedures and criteria adopted by the State Board of Examiners may not be used until they are approved by the Interim Finance Committee.

3. If a school district finds that it has unexpected expenses related to providing health insurance to its employees during the 2003-2005 biennium, the school district may submit a request to the

Department of Education for an allocation from the appropriation in subsection 1.

4. The Department of Education, the Budget Division of the Department of Administration and the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall jointly review a request submitted pursuant to subsection 3, using the policies, procedures and criteria approved by the Interim Finance Committee pursuant to subsection 2. Upon completion of the review, a recommendation for or against an allocation to the requesting school district must be submitted by the Department of Education to the State Board of Examiners.

5. The State Board of Examiners shall consider each request and recommend the amount of the allocation, if any, to the Interim Finance Committee.

6. The Interim Finance Committee is not required to approve the entire amount of an allocation recommended pursuant to subsection 5 or to allocate the entire amount appropriated by subsection 1.

7. Any remaining balance of the sum appropriated by subsection 1 must not be allocated by the Interim Finance Committee after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

**Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.