

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 508—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 24, 2003

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing academic standards for certain grade levels to include certain cultural studies. (BDR 34-1217)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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; requiring the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to revise the academic standards in social studies for certain grade levels to include the study of certain cultures; revising related provisions that set forth the core academic subjects in public schools; 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.** NRS 386.590 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 386.590 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,
3 at least 70 percent of the teachers who provide instruction at a
4 charter school must be licensed teachers. If a charter school is a
5 vocational school, the charter school shall, to the extent practicable,
6 ensure that at least 70 percent of the teachers who provide
7 instruction at the school are licensed teachers, but in no event may
8 more than 50 percent of the teachers who provide instruction at the
9 school be unlicensed teachers.
10 2. A governing body of a charter school shall employ:
11 (a) If the charter school offers instruction in kindergarten or
12 grade 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, a licensed teacher to teach pupils who are
13 enrolled in those grades.



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1 (b) If the charter school offers instruction in grade 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
2 11 or 12, a licensed teacher to teach pupils who are enrolled in those
3 grades for the following courses of study:

- 4 (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;
- 5 (2) Mathematics;
- 6 (3) Science; and
- 7 (4) Social studies, which includes :

8 *(I) Except as otherwise provided in sub-subparagraph*
9 *(II), only the subjects of history, geography, economics and*
10 *government.*

11 *(II) In addition to the provisions of sub-subparagraph*
12 *(I), for kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, inclusive, the study of*
13 *cultures of various ethnic and racial groups represented in the*
14 *United States.*

15 (c) In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b):

16 (1) If a charter school specializes in arts and humanities,
17 physical education or health education, a licensed teacher to teach
18 those courses of study.

19 (2) If a charter school specializes in the construction industry
20 or other building industry, licensed teachers to teach courses of
21 study relating to the industry if those teachers are employed full-
22 time.

23 (3) If a charter school specializes in the construction industry
24 or other building industry and the school offers courses of study in
25 computer education, technology or business, licensed teachers to
26 teach those courses of study if those teachers are employed full-
27 time.

28 3. A charter school may employ a person who is not licensed
29 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 391 of NRS to teach a course
30 of study for which a licensed teacher is not required pursuant to
31 subsection 2 if the person has:

32 (a) A degree, a license or a certificate in the field for which he is
33 employed to teach at the charter school; and

34 (b) At least 2 years of experience in that field.

35 4. A charter school may employ such administrators for the
36 school as it deems necessary. A person employed as an
37 administrator must possess:

38 (a) A master's degree in school administration, public
39 administration or business administration; or

40 (b) If the person has at least 5 years of experience in
41 administration, a baccalaureate degree.

42 5. A charter school shall not employ a person pursuant to this
43 section if his license to teach or provide other educational services
44 has been revoked or suspended in this state or another state.



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1 6. On or before November 15 of each year, a charter school
2 shall submit to the Department, in a format prescribed by the
3 Superintendent of Public Instruction, the following information for
4 each licensed employee who is employed by the governing body on
5 October 1 of that year:

- 6 (a) The amount of salary of the employee; and
7 (b) The designated assignment, as that term is defined by the
8 Department, of the employee.

9 **Sec. 2.** NRS 389.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 389.018 1. The following subjects are designated as the core
11 academic subjects that must be taught, as applicable for grade
12 levels, in all public schools, the Caliente Youth Center and the
13 Nevada Youth Training Center:

- 14 (a) English, including reading, composition and writing;
15 (b) Mathematics;
16 (c) Science; and
17 (d) Social studies, which includes :

18 *(1) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (2), only*
19 the subjects of history, geography, economics and government.

20 *(2) In addition to the provisions of subparagraph (1), for*
21 *kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, inclusive, the study of cultures of*
22 *various ethnic and racial groups represented in the United States.*

23 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in addition
24 to the core academic subjects, the following subjects must be taught
25 as applicable for grade levels and to the extent practicable in all
26 public schools, the Caliente Youth Center and the Nevada Youth
27 Training Center:

- 28 (a) The arts;
29 (b) Computer education and technology;
30 (c) Health; and
31 (d) Physical education.

32 If the State Board requires the completion of course work in a
33 subject area set forth in this subsection for graduation from high
34 school or promotion to the next grade, a public school shall offer the
35 required course work. Unless a subject is required for graduation
36 from high school or promotion to the next grade, a charter school is
37 not required to comply with this subsection.

38 **Sec. 3.** NRS 389.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 389.520 1. The Council shall:

40 (a) Establish standards of content and performance, including,
41 without limitation, a prescription of the resulting level of
42 achievement, for the grade levels set forth in subsection 2, based
43 upon the content of each course, that is expected of pupils for the
44 following courses of study:

- 45 (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;



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- 1 (2) Mathematics;
2 (3) Science;
3 (4) Social studies, which includes :
4 *(I) Except as otherwise provided in sub-subparagraph*
5 *(II), only the subjects of history, geography, economics and*
6 *government* ~~§~~.
7 *(II) In addition to the provisions of sub-subparagraph*
8 *(I), for kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, inclusive, the study of*
9 *cultures of various ethnic and racial groups represented in the*
10 *United States;*
11 (5) The arts;
12 (6) Computer education and technology;
13 (7) Health; and
14 (8) Physical education.
15 (b) Establish a schedule for the periodic review and, if
16 necessary, revision of the standards of content and performance. The
17 review must include, without limitation, the review required
18 pursuant to NRS 389.570 of the results of pupils on the
19 examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.
20 (c) Assign priorities to the standards of content and performance
21 relative to importance and degree of emphasis and revise the
22 standards, if necessary, based upon the priorities.
23 2. The Council shall establish standards of content and
24 performance for each grade level in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8,
25 inclusive, for English and mathematics. The Council shall establish
26 standards of content and performance for the grade levels selected
27 by the Council for the other courses of study prescribed in
28 subsection 1.
29 3. The State Board shall adopt the standards of content and
30 performance established by the Council.
31 4. The Council shall work in cooperation with the State Board
32 to prescribe the examinations required by NRS 389.550.
33 **Sec. 4.** The Council to Establish Academic Standards for
34 Public Schools shall:
35 1. On or before January 1, 2004, revise the standards of content
36 and performance for social studies to comply with the amendatory
37 provisions of section 3 of this act.
38 2. On or before February 1, 2005, submit the revised standards
39 to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to
40 the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.
41 **Sec. 5.** On or before April 1, 2004, the State Board of
42 Education shall adopt the standards of content and performance for
43 social studies revised by the Council to Establish Academic
44 Standards for Public Schools pursuant to the amendatory provisions



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1 of section 3 of this act. The revised standards must be carried out in
2 elementary schools commencing with the 2004-2005 school year.
3 **Sec. 6.** 1. This section and sections 3, 4 and 5 of this act
4 become effective on July 1, 2003.
5 2. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective on
6 July 1, 2004.

