

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 209—ASSEMBLYMEN SMITH, LESLIE,
PARNELL, GIUNCHIGLIANI, ANDERSON, ATKINSON,
BUCKLEY, CONKLIN, DENIS, GANSERT, GERHARDT,
HARDY, HOGAN, HOLCOMB, KIRKPATRICK, MANENDO,
MCCLAIN, MCCLEARY, OCEGUERA, PIERCE AND WEBER

MARCH 16, 2005

Referred to Concurrent Committees on Education
and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Provides for establishment and implementation
of pilot programs for prekindergarten children
with limited proficiency in English language.
(BDR S-827)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included
in Executive Budget.

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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; making an appropriation to the
Department of Education for distribution to school
districts that establish pilot programs to teach the English
language to prekindergarten children who have limited
proficiency in the English language; and providing other
matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, pupils who are limited
2 English proficient are among one of the subgroups for which states must report data
3 on educational progress. (20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq.) Under existing Nevada law,
4 the State Board of Education is required to establish a program to teach the English
5 language to pupils enrolled in public schools who are limited English proficient.
6 (NRS 388.405)
7 This bill makes an appropriation of \$175,000 to the Department of Education to
8 fund pilot programs to teach the English language to prekindergarten children who
9 have limited proficiency in the English language during the summer before they
10 attend kindergarten. The Department of Education is required to create the form for
11 the application, prescribe the criteria for approval and establish a longitudinal
12 evaluation of the pilot programs.



13 A school district may submit an application to the Department for a grant of
14 money. The application must include a plan for the establishment of the pilot
15 program and include proof that the school district has obtained matching money
16 from a private source. Each class that is included in the pilot program must have at
17 least one teacher and one paraprofessional, at least one of whom is bilingual in
18 English and the primary language of the children in the class. Upon approval of an
19 application, the Department must grant \$100,000 to the Clark County School
20 District and \$50,000 to the Washoe County School District. The remaining \$25,000
21 from the appropriation must be proportionately allocated among the other school
22 districts whose applications are approved.

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

1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
2 General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$175,000
3 for distribution to school districts that establish pilot programs to
4 teach the English language to children who have limited proficiency
5 in the English language during the summer before they attend
6 kindergarten.

7 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by
8 subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30,
9 2007, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
10 September 21, 2007.

11 **Sec. 2.** 1. The Department of Education shall:

12 (a) Prescribe the form for an application to establish a pilot
13 program to teach the English language to children who have limited
14 proficiency in the English language during the summer before they
15 attend kindergarten;

16 (b) Prescribe the criteria for the selection of school districts to
17 establish a pilot program; and

18 (c) Develop a uniform method for evaluation of the pilot
19 programs that provides a longitudinal analysis of statistical data.

20 2. A school district that wishes to establish a pilot program to
21 teach the English language to children who have limited proficiency
22 in the English language during the summer before they attend
23 kindergarten shall:

24 (a) On or before October 1, 2005, submit to the Department of
25 Education an application on the form prescribed by the Department
26 pursuant to subsection 1;

27 (b) Submit proof to the Department that the school district has
28 obtained matching money from a private source to combine with the
29 money provided by the Department pursuant to subsection 5; and

30 (c) Agree to participate in the longitudinal evaluation of the pilot
31 programs developed by the Department pursuant to subsection 1.



3. An application submitted pursuant to subsection 2 must contain a plan for a pilot program. Such a plan must:

(a) Contain an estimate of the number of children who will be enrolled in the program.

(b) Set forth the manner in which the children will be screened for participation in the pilot program. For each student that will participate in the pilot program, all prekindergarten children who are determined to have limited proficiency in the English language, who speak a common language and who will be enrolled in kindergarten at the school in the fall of 2006, must be enrolled in the same class for the pilot program, unless fewer than 10 such children speak a common language.

(c) Ensure that each class taught in the pilot program includes at least one teacher and one paraprofessional, at least one of whom must speak, read and write both the English language and the primary language of the children enrolled in the class.

4. The Department shall not approve an application submitted pursuant to subsection 2 if the applicant has not received matching money from a private source.

5. On or before December 1, 2005, the Department of Education shall make grants of money from the appropriation made by section 1 of this act as follows:

(a) If the Department approves an application submitted by the Clark County School District, \$100,000 to the School District to carry out the pilot program before the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year.

(b) If the Department approves an application submitted by the Washoe County School District, \$50,000 to the School District to carry out the pilot program before the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year.

(c) If the Department approves applications submitted by school districts other than the Clark County School District and Washoe County School District, the Department shall distribute the amount of money remaining from the appropriation made by section 1 of this act to those school districts. The grants of money made to each school district pursuant to this paragraph must be distributed proportionately among the school districts based upon the number of children who are estimated to participate in the pilot program in each school district. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to this paragraph shall use the money to carry out the approved pilot program before the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year.

6. For each school district whose application is approved, the school district shall distribute \$1,000 to each school that will



1 participate in the pilot program to promote parental involvement
2 with the parents and legal guardians of children enrolled in the
3 program. The money may be used by a school, without limitation,
4 for the purchase of translating materials for the parents and
5 guardians and providing training to the staff and parents and
6 guardians on effective methods to communicate with school
7 personnel and other methods designed to promote effective
8 involvement by parents and guardians in the education of their
9 children.

10 7. A school district that establishes a pilot program:

11 (a) Is responsible for all costs associated with the building,
12 maintenance, utilities, administration and supplies for the pilot
13 program offered at a school within the district.

14 (b) Shall submit an evaluation of the pilot program on or before
15 November 1, 2006, to the Department of Education in a format
16 required by the Department.

17 8. On or before February 1, 2007, the Department of Education
18 shall submit a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel
19 Bureau for transmission to the 74th Session of the Nevada
20 Legislature. The report must include, without limitation:

21 (a) The name of each school district that received a grant of
22 money pursuant to subsection 5 and the amount of each grant;

23 (b) A compilation of the evaluations submitted by each school
24 district that established a pilot program;

25 (c) An evaluation of the pilot programs, including, without
26 limitation, the effect of the programs on the achievement and
27 proficiency in the English language of the children enrolled in the
28 program; and

29 (d) Any recommendations for legislation relating to the pilot
30 programs.

31 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.

