

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 335—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

MARCH 21, 2005

Referred to Concurrent Committees on Education
and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Makes various changes regarding education and
makes appropriations. (BDR 34-482)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 appropriations for educational technology, the expansion of the co-teaching program in the Clark County School District and the contractual services of a consultant to provide personalized study guides to pupils who fail one or more portions of the high school proficiency examination; authorizing the disclosure of certain confidential examinations to a representative of the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs; creating advisory committees to the Legislative Committee on Education for the review of the high school proficiency examination and teacher incentives; requiring the Department of Education to review certain issues related to distance education; requiring the Legislative Committee on Education to review the transition of pupils from high school to postsecondary education; 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 389.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 389.015 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall
3 administer examinations in all public schools of the school district.
4 The governing body of a charter school shall administer the same
5 examinations in the charter school. The examinations administered
6 by the board of trustees and governing body must determine the
7 achievement and proficiency of pupils in:
8 (a) Reading;
9 (b) Mathematics; and
10 (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, science.
11 2. The examinations required by subsection 1 must be:
12 (a) Administered before the completion of grades 4, 7, 10
13 and 11.
14 (b) Administered in each school district and each charter school
15 at the same time during the spring semester. The time for the
16 administration of the examinations must be prescribed by the State
17 Board.
18 (c) Administered in each school in accordance with uniform
19 procedures adopted by the State Board. The Department shall
20 monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools
21 with the uniform procedures.
22 (d) Administered in each school in accordance with the plan
23 adopted pursuant to NRS 389.616 by the Department and with the
24 plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.620 by the board of trustees of
25 the school district in which the examinations are administered. The
26 Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and
27 individual schools with:
28 (1) The plan adopted by the Department; and
29 (2) The plan adopted by the board of trustees of the
30 applicable school district, to the extent that the plan adopted by the
31 board of trustees of the school district is consistent with the plan
32 adopted by the Department.
33 (e) Scored by a single private entity that has contracted with the
34 State Board to score the examinations. The private entity that scores
35 the examinations shall report the results of the examinations in the
36 form and by the date required by the Department.
37 3. Not more than 14 working days after the results of the
38 examinations are reported to the Department by a private entity that
39 scored the examinations, the Superintendent of Public Instruction
40 shall certify that the results of the examinations have been
41 transmitted to each school district and each charter school. Not more
42 than 10 working days after a school district receives the results of



1 the examinations, the superintendent of schools of each school
2 district shall certify that the results of the examinations have been
3 transmitted to each school within the school district. Except as
4 otherwise provided in this subsection, not more than 15 working
5 days after each school receives the results of the examinations, the
6 principal of each school and the governing body of each charter
7 school shall certify that the results for each pupil have been
8 provided to the parent or legal guardian of the pupil:

9 (a) During a conference between the teacher of the pupil or
10 administrator of the school and the parent or legal guardian of the
11 pupil; or

12 (b) By mailing the results of the examinations to the last known
13 address of the parent or legal guardian of the pupil.

14 ➤ If a pupil fails the high school proficiency examination, the
15 school shall notify the pupil and the parents or legal guardian of the
16 pupil as soon as practicable but not later than 15 working days after
17 the school receives the results of the examination.

18 4. If a pupil fails to demonstrate at least adequate achievement
19 on the examination administered before the completion of grade 4, 7
20 or 10, he may be promoted to the next higher grade, but the results
21 of his examination must be evaluated to determine what remedial
22 study is appropriate. If such a pupil is enrolled at a school that has
23 failed to make adequate yearly progress or in which less than 60
24 percent of the pupils enrolled in grade 4, 7 or 10 in the school who
25 took the examinations administered pursuant to this section received
26 an average score on those examinations that is at least equal to the
27 26th percentile of the national reference group of pupils to which
28 the examinations were compared, the pupil must, in accordance with
29 the requirements set forth in this subsection, complete remedial
30 study that is determined to be appropriate for the pupil.

31 5. If a pupil fails to pass the proficiency examination
32 administered before the completion of grade 11, he must not be
33 graduated until he is able, through remedial study, to pass the
34 proficiency examination, but he may be given a certificate of
35 attendance, in place of a diploma, if he has reached the age of 17
36 years.

37 6. The State Board shall prescribe standard examinations of
38 achievement and proficiency to be administered pursuant to
39 subsection 1. The high school proficiency examination must include
40 the subjects of reading and mathematics and, except for the writing
41 portion prescribed pursuant to NRS 389.550, must be developed,
42 printed and scored by a nationally recognized testing company in
43 accordance with the process established by the testing company.
44 The examinations on reading, mathematics and science prescribed
45 for grades 4, 7 and 10 must be selected from examinations created



1 by private entities and administered to a national reference group,
2 and must allow for a comparison of the achievement and proficiency
3 of pupils in grades 4, 7 and 10 in this State to that of a national
4 reference group of pupils in grades 4, 7 and 10. The questions
5 contained in the examinations and the approved answers used for
6 grading them are confidential, and disclosure is unlawful except:

7 (a) To the extent necessary for administering and evaluating the
8 examinations.

9 (b) That a disclosure may be made to a:

10 (1) State officer who is a member of the Executive or
11 Legislative Branch to the extent that it is necessary for the
12 performance of his duties;

13 (2) Superintendent of schools of a school district to the
14 extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties;

15 (3) Director of curriculum of a school district to the extent
16 that it is necessary for the performance of his duties; ~~and~~

17 (4) Director of testing of a school district to the extent that it
18 is necessary for the performance of his *duties; and*

19 *(5) A representative of the Statewide Council for the*
20 *Coordination of the Regional Training Programs created by NRS*
21 *391.516 to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his*
22 *duties.*

23 (c) That specific questions and answers may be disclosed if the
24 Superintendent of Public Instruction determines that the content of
25 the questions and answers is not being used in a current examination
26 and making the content available to the public poses no threat to the
27 security of the current examination process.

28 **Sec. 2.** NRS 389.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 389.015 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall
30 administer examinations in all public schools of the school district.
31 The governing body of a charter school shall administer the same
32 examinations in the charter school. The examinations administered
33 by the board of trustees and governing body must determine the
34 achievement and proficiency of pupils in:

35 (a) Reading;

36 (b) Mathematics; and

37 (c) Science.

38 2. The examinations required by subsection 1 must be:

39 (a) Administered before the completion of grades 4, 7, 10
40 and 11.

41 (b) Administered in each school district and each charter school
42 at the same time during the spring semester. The time for the
43 administration of the examinations must be prescribed by the State
44 Board.



(c) Administered in each school in accordance with uniform procedures adopted by the State Board. The Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools with the uniform procedures.

(d) Administered in each school in accordance with the plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.616 by the Department and with the plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.620 by the board of trustees of the school district in which the examinations are administered. The Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools with:

(1) The plan adopted by the Department; and

(2) The plan adopted by the board of trustees of the applicable school district, to the extent that the plan adopted by the board of trustees of the school district is consistent with the plan adopted by the Department.

(e) Scored by a single private entity that has contracted with the State Board to score the examinations. The private entity that scores the examinations shall report the results of the examinations in the form and by the date required by the Department.

3. Not more than 14 working days after the results of the examinations are reported to the Department by a private entity that scored the examinations, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall certify that the results of the examinations have been transmitted to each school district and each charter school. Not more than 10 working days after a school district receives the results of the examinations, the superintendent of schools of each school district shall certify that the results of the examinations have been transmitted to each school within the school district. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not more than 15 working days after each school receives the results of the examinations, the principal of each school and the governing body of each charter school shall certify that the results for each pupil have been provided to the parent or legal guardian of the pupil:

(a) During a conference between the teacher of the pupil or administrator of the school and the parent or legal guardian of the pupil; or

(b) By mailing the results of the examinations to the last known address of the parent or legal guardian of the pupil.

➤ If a pupil fails the high school proficiency examination, the school shall notify the pupil and the parents or legal guardian of the pupil as soon as practicable but not later than 15 working days after the school receives the results of the examination.

4. If a pupil fails to demonstrate at least adequate achievement on the examination administered before the completion of grade 4, 7 or 10, he may be promoted to the next higher grade, but the results



1 of his examination must be evaluated to determine what remedial
2 study is appropriate. If such a pupil is enrolled at a school that has
3 failed to make adequate yearly progress or in which less than 60
4 percent of the pupils enrolled in grade 4, 7 or 10 in the school who
5 took the examinations administered pursuant to this section received
6 an average score on those examinations that is at least equal to the
7 26th percentile of the national reference group of pupils to which
8 the examinations were compared, the pupil must, in accordance with
9 the requirements set forth in this subsection, complete remedial
10 study that is determined to be appropriate for the pupil.

11 5. If a pupil fails to pass the proficiency examination
12 administered before the completion of grade 11, he must not be
13 graduated until he is able, through remedial study, to pass the
14 proficiency examination, but he may be given a certificate of
15 attendance, in place of a diploma, if he has reached the age of 17
16 years.

17 6. The State Board shall prescribe standard examinations of
18 achievement and proficiency to be administered pursuant to
19 subsection 1. The high school proficiency examination must include
20 the subjects of reading, mathematics and science and, except for the
21 writing portion prescribed pursuant to NRS 389.550, must be
22 developed, printed and scored by a nationally recognized testing
23 company in accordance with the process established by the testing
24 company. The examinations on reading, mathematics and science
25 prescribed for grades 4, 7 and 10 must be selected from
26 examinations created by private entities and administered to a
27 national reference group, and must allow for a comparison of the
28 achievement and proficiency of pupils in grades 4, 7 and 10 in this
29 State to that of a national reference group of pupils in grades 4, 7
30 and 10. The questions contained in the examinations and the
31 approved answers used for grading them are confidential, and
32 disclosure is unlawful except:

33 (a) To the extent necessary for administering and evaluating the
34 examinations.

35 (b) That a disclosure may be made to a:

36 (1) State officer who is a member of the Executive or
37 Legislative Branch to the extent that it is necessary for the
38 performance of his duties;

39 (2) Superintendent of schools of a school district to the
40 extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties;

41 (3) Director of curriculum of a school district to the extent
42 that it is necessary for the performance of his duties; ~~and~~

43 (4) Director of testing of a school district to the extent that it
44 is necessary for the performance of his *duties; and*



1 (5) *A representative of the Statewide Council for the*
2 *Coordination of the Regional Training Programs created by NRS*
3 *391.516 to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his*
4 *duties.*

5 (c) That specific questions and answers may be disclosed if the
6 Superintendent of Public Instruction determines that the content of
7 the questions and answers is not being used in a current examination
8 and making the content available to the public poses no threat to the
9 security of the current examination process.

10 **Sec. 3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
11 General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of
12 \$9,950,000 for educational technology.

13 2. The Department of Education shall distribute the money
14 appropriated by subsection 1 as follows:

15 (a) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to
16 local school districts for pilot programs that demonstrate best
17 practices for the use of educational technology to improve the
18 achievement of pupils:

19 For the Fiscal Year 2005-2006..... \$150,000

20 For the Fiscal Year 2006-2007..... \$150,000

21 (b) For the Commission on Educational Technology to distribute
22 for the KLVX Distance Learning Satellite Service \$400,000

23 (c) For the Commission on Educational Technology to
24 grant to the Division of State Library and Archives of the
25 Department of Cultural Affairs for licenses to allow school libraries
26 access to research databases and other on-line resources appropriate
27 for pupils..... \$500,000

28 (d) For the Commission on Educational Technology to
29 grant money to local school districts in accordance with
30 the priorities established by the Commission pursuant to
31 subsection 3 \$8,750,000

32 3. The Commission on Educational Technology shall establish
33 a list of priorities for the grants of money to school districts pursuant
34 to section 4 of this act. The list of priorities must include, without
35 limitation, networked computers for classrooms, repair, replacement
36 and upgrade of computer hardware and software, and contracting
37 services for enhanced technical support.

38 4. On or before September 1, 2005, the Commission on
39 Educational Technology shall submit the list of priorities to the
40 Legislative Committee on Education for its review and approval.
41 The Commission shall not award grants of money pursuant to
42 paragraph (d) of subsection 2 unless the Legislative Committee has
43 approved the list of priorities established by the Commission. If the
44 Legislative Committee approves the list of priorities, the



1 Department of Education and the Commission shall provide notice
2 of the list to all school districts in this State.

3 5. The sums appropriated by paragraph (a) of subsection 2 are
4 available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not
5 be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2007, and reverts to the
6 State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed
7 have been made.

8 6. Any remaining balance of the appropriations made by
9 paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 2 must not be committed
10 for expenditure after June 30, 2007, and reverts to the State General
11 Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

12 **Sec. 4.** 1. To receive a grant of money pursuant to paragraph
13 (d) of subsection 2 of section 3 of this act, a school district must:

14 (a) Complete forms provided by the Superintendent of Public
15 Instruction.

16 (b) Submit a written request to the Commission on Educational
17 Technology that identifies the needs of the schools within the school
18 district for educational technology in accordance with the list of
19 priorities established by the Commission pursuant to subsection 4 of
20 section 3 of this act.

21 (c) Submit a plan to the Commission on Educational
22 Technology for the use of educational technology to improve the
23 instruction and academic achievement of pupils, based upon the
24 most recent version of the plan adopted by the Commission pursuant
25 to NRS 388.795 for the use of educational technology in the public
26 schools of this State. A school district may, as part of its plan and
27 upon approval of the Commission, elect to use refurbished
28 computers that do not meet the technical standards established by
29 the Commission.

30 (d) Submit a plan for evaluation in accordance with guidelines
31 submitted by the Commission on Educational Technology that
32 includes the effectiveness of the use of educational technology in
33 improving the academic achievement of pupils.

34 (e) Provide any additional information requested by the
35 Commission on Educational Technology.

36 2. The Commission on Educational Technology shall
37 determine the amount of money that must be distributed to school
38 districts based upon the priorities for grants established by the
39 Commission pursuant to subsection 4 of section 3 of this act, the
40 needs of each school district and the wealth of the school district
41 relative to the other school districts in this State.

42 3. A school district that receives a grant of money shall:

43 (a) Account for the money separately; and



(b) Use the money to supplement, and not replace, the money that the school district would otherwise expend for educational technology.

4. A school district that receives a grant of money shall not use the money to:

(a) Settle or arbitrate disputes or negotiate settlements between an organization that represents licensed employees of the school district and the school district.

(b) Adjust the schedules of salaries and benefits of the employees of the school district.

5. On or before January 1, 2007, each school district that receives a grant of money shall submit to the Department of Education and the Commission on Educational Technology a written report in the format required by the Department. The report must include, without limitation:

(a) A statement of the amount of the grant distributed to the school district;

(b) A record of the manner in which the money was expended;

(c) The purposes of each such expenditure; and

(d) Any other expenditures for similar purposes from other money available to the school district.

6. On or before February 1, 2007, the Department of Education shall submit a written summary to the Governor, the Commission on Educational Technology and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature. The written summary must include, without limitation:

(a) The name of each school district that received a grant of money; and

(b) A compilation of the reports submitted to the Department pursuant to subsection 5.

Sec. 5. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Clark County School District the following sums for the further development and expansion of the co-teaching program in secondary schools in the School District:

For the Fiscal Year 2005-2006..... \$1,108,740

For the Fiscal Year 2006-2007..... \$1,108,740

2. The Clark County School District shall use the money appropriated by subsection 1 to:

(a) Further develop and expand the co-teaching program in the secondary schools of the School District pursuant to which special education teachers are paired with general education teachers to plan instruction and the delivery of subject matter to ensure that pupils enrolled in programs of special education in the School District are successful in the general education setting.



(b) Provide planning time during the summer and during the school year for the teachers who participate in the program.

(c) Provide substitute teachers so that the teachers participating in the program may attend training classes and seminars related to co-teaching.

3. On or before September 1, 2006, the Clark County School District shall submit to the Legislative Committee on Education and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation an interim report of the progress of the further development and expansion of the co-teaching program in the secondary schools of the School District.

4. On or before February 1, 2007, the Clark County School District shall submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature a final written report that includes:

(a) The manner in which the money appropriated by subsection 1 was used by the Clark County School District;

(b) A summary of the effectiveness of the co-teaching program in the Clark County School District, including, without limitation, the effect of the program on the achievement of pupils who are enrolled in programs of special education; and

(c) Any recommendations for legislation or other considerations for expanding the co-teaching program statewide.

5. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 15, 2006, and September 21, 2007, respectively.

Sec. 6. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Interim Finance Committee the following sums for the contractual services of a consultant to provide personalized study guides for pupils who fail one or more portions of the high school proficiency examination:

For the Fiscal Year 2005-2006..... \$795,000

For the Fiscal Year 2006-2007..... \$750,000

2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2007, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 21, 2007.

Sec. 7. 1. There is hereby created an Advisory Task Force to the Legislative Committee on Education for the Review of Certain Academic Standards and the High School Proficiency Examination. All appointments to the Task Force must be made on or before September 1, 2005.



2. The Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall appoint the following members to the Task Force:

(a) One director of testing of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more and one director of testing of a school district in a county whose population is less than 100,000;

(b) One director of curriculum of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more and one director of curriculum of a school district in a county whose population is less than 100,000;

(c) One teacher who provides instruction in a public high school;

(d) One teacher who provides instruction in a public middle school or junior high school;

(e) One teacher who provides instruction in a public elementary school;

(f) Two nonlegislative members of the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools created by NRS 389.510;

(g) One parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a public high school;

(h) One parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a public middle school or junior high school;

(i) One parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a public elementary school;

(j) One teacher who provides instruction in an alternative education program of a school district or a program of adult education; and

(k) One school principal.

➔ The Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education shall appoint a Chairman of the Advisory Task Force from among the members he appoints.

3. If requested by the Task Force, the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools, created by NRS 389.510, shall:

(a) Provide all information related to Nevada's academic standards that is necessary for the Task Force to carry out its duties; and

(b) Otherwise work in consultation with the Task Force in carrying out the duties of the Task Force that are related to academic standards.

4. Each member of the Task Force is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally for each day or portion of a day during which he attends a meeting of the Task Force or is otherwise engaged in the business of the Task Force. The per diem allowance and travel



1 expenses for the members of the Task Force must be paid from the
2 Legislative Fund.

3 **Sec. 8.** 1. The Advisory Task Force to Review Certain
4 Academic Standards and the High School Proficiency Examination
5 created pursuant to section 7 of this act shall:

6 (a) Review the high school proficiency examination to
7 determine:

8 (1) The percentage of the examination questions that address
9 the academic standards for grades 9 to 12, inclusive;

10 (2) The percentage of the examination questions that address
11 the academic standards for kindergarten through grade 8, inclusive;
12 and

13 (3) The percentage of the academic standards for grades 9 to
14 12, inclusive, which have been assigned priority for state testing by
15 the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools and
16 that are tested on the examination;

17 (b) Analyze whether the results of pupils on the high school
18 proficiency examination are delivered in a timely manner to ensure
19 that pupils are able to receive appropriate remediation before the
20 next administration of the examination, including, without
21 limitation, a review of:

22 (1) The test administration documents and guidelines of the
23 testing company or the Department of Education, as applicable; and

24 (2) The efficiency of procedures carried out by school
25 districts for the submission of the test booklets for scoring;

26 (c) Determine the methods and procedures that may be used to
27 ensure more efficient and expedient delivery of the results of pupils
28 on the high school proficiency examination to ensure that pupils
29 who would benefit from remediation before the next administration
30 of the examination are provided with an adequate opportunity to
31 receive that remediation;

32 (d) Determine if the instruction provided in grades 1 to 8,
33 inclusive, is calibrated to the academic standards established for
34 those grades by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for
35 Public Schools;

36 (e) Analyze the academic standards in reading and mathematics
37 established for this State to determine the extent to which those
38 standards compare with the standards in reading and mathematics
39 that are tested on the examinations of the National Assessment of
40 Educational Progress;

41 (f) Consider whether the Legislature should require the
42 successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II for
43 receipt of a standard high school diploma;



(g) Consider whether the State Board of Education should prescribe minimum English course requirements for receipt of a standard high school diploma; and

(h) On or before August 1, 2006, submit a report of its findings and recommendations for legislation to the Legislative Committee on Education.

2. The Legislative Committee on Education shall consider the recommendations of the Task Force and shall, on or before February 1, 2007, submit the report of the Task Force to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 389.017 to the contrary, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall disclose to the Task Force the questions and answers on all forms of the high school proficiency examination to the extent the disclosure is necessary for the Task Force to carry out its duties. The disclosure must be made in a manner that does not violate the confidentiality of the examination.

4. The provisions of chapter 241 of NRS do not apply to a meeting or a portion of a meeting of the Task Force to the extent that it is necessary for the Task Force to maintain the confidentiality of the high school proficiency examination.

Sec. 9. 1. There is hereby created an Advisory Committee to the Legislative Committee on Education to study the effectiveness of financial incentives and other methods of compensation to attract and retain qualified teachers, consisting of the following nine members appointed by the Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education:

(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or his designee;

(b) Three employees from various school districts who are responsible for recruiting teachers;

(c) One representative of the Nevada State Education Association, recommended for appointment by the President of that Association;

(d) One teacher employed by the Clark County School District, recommended for appointment by the superintendent of schools of that school district;

(e) One teacher employed by the Washoe County School District, recommended for appointment by the superintendent of schools of that school district; and

(f) From two rural school districts selected by the Department of Education, two teachers recommended for appointment by the superintendent of schools in each of the selected school districts.

2. Each member of the Advisory Committee is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for



1 state officers and employees generally for each day or portion of a
2 day during which he attends a meeting of the Advisory Committee
3 or is otherwise engaged in the business of the Advisory Committee.
4 Except for the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the per diem
5 allowance and travel expenses for the members of the Task Force
6 must be paid from the Legislative Fund.

7 3. The Advisory Committee shall:

8 (a) Examine the effectiveness of financial incentives in
9 attracting and retaining qualified teachers, including, without
10 limitation, the signing bonuses provided to newly hired teachers by
11 the 71st Session of the Nevada Legislature, section 4 of chapter 574,
12 Statutes of Nevada 2001, at page 2899, and by the 72nd Session of
13 the Nevada Legislature, paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of section 33
14 of chapter 327, Statutes of Nevada 2003, at page 1837, and the
15 purchase of retirement credit required by NRS 391.165;

16 (b) Determine which financial incentives and other methods of
17 compensation are most effective in recruiting and retaining qualified
18 teachers, the appropriate level of those financial incentives and the
19 feasibility of providing those incentives to the licensed teachers in
20 this State; and

21 (c) Examine the feasibility and effectiveness of a pay schedule
22 for teachers that is based on performance.

23 4. On or before August 1, 2006, the Advisory Committee shall
24 submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for
25 legislation to the Legislative Committee on Education. The
26 Legislative Committee on Education shall consider the
27 recommendations and submit the report of the Advisory Committee
28 to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to
29 the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

30 **Sec. 10.** 1. The Department of Education shall review
31 distance education in this State and determine whether revisions to
32 the current method of financing distance education are necessary
33 and feasible. The review must include, without limitation:

34 (a) The availability of programs of distance education in this
35 State and the geographic areas where those programs are available;

36 (b) The number of pupils participating in programs of distance
37 education provided pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive;

38 (c) The number of pupils who are enrolled full time in a school
39 district or charter school and participating in a program of distance
40 education provided by another school district or charter school, and
41 the impact on the money provided both to the school district or
42 charter school in which the pupil is enrolled full time and the
43 provider of the program of distance education;

44 (d) A determination of whether the current system of financing
45 programs of distance education provides sufficient money for the:



1 (1) Providers of the programs of distance education; and
2 (2) School districts and charter schools that authorize pupils
3 to participate in programs of distance education provided by another
4 school district or charter school;

5 (e) A determination of whether alternative methods of financing
6 programs of distance education are necessary and feasible; and

7 (f) A summary of the alternative methods for financing
8 programs of distance education, if any, that the Department
9 considers necessary and feasible to ensure the availability of those
10 programs for pupils who are eligible to participate and desire to
11 participate.

12 2. The Department of Education shall submit:

13 (a) A preliminary report of its findings and recommendations to
14 the Legislative Committee on Education on or before September 1,
15 2006.

16 (b) A final written report of its findings and recommendations to
17 the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on or before
18 February 1, 2007, for transmission to the 74th Session of the
19 Nevada Legislature.

20 **Sec. 11.** 1. The Legislative Committee on Education shall
21 include in its review of education during the 2005-2007 interim, a
22 review of the transition of pupils from high school to postsecondary
23 education. The review may include, without limitation:

24 (a) Support services available for pupils to make the transition
25 from high school to postsecondary education, including, without
26 limitation, an identification of support services available for
27 particular demographic groups;

28 (b) The ratio of school guidance counselors available for pupils
29 in secondary schools; and

30 (c) The extent to which preparation of pupils in high school for
31 postsecondary education makes the transition more successful for
32 those pupils.

33 2. The Legislative Committee on Education shall report any
34 findings and recommendations for legislation to the 74th Session of
35 the Nevada Legislature.

36 **Sec. 12.** 1. This section and sections 1 and 3 to 11, inclusive,
37 of this act become effective on July 1, 2005.

38 2. Section 1 of this act expires by limitation on June 30, 2007.

39 3. Section 2 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.



