

Senate Bill No. 286—Senators Horsford and Wiener

Joint Sponsor: Assemblyman Munford

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; encouraging the Clark County School District to construct a career and technical high school within a certain area of Clark County; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

WHEREAS, Profound economic and technological changes in our society are reflected in the structure and nature of our workforce, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on Nevada's system of education to prepare the students who reside in this State with the necessary basic tools and skills to be successful and productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, The system of career and technical education in this State, through the oversight and direction of the State Board for Occupational Education, offers students in this State opportunities to learn new skills which provide them with career choices and personal satisfaction as they become leaders in their communities; and

WHEREAS, The ever-increasing cooperative efforts of career and technical educators and business and industry produces a strong, well-educated workforce and stimulates the growth and vitality of our local economy; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center was established in the Clark County School District to provide vocational and academic instruction that imparts entry-level job skills and enables students to meet college entrance requirements; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center has proven vastly successful in its mission and today serves 1,750 students; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center, as well as other career and technical education programs offered within the Clark County School District, have waiting lists for enrollment; and

WHEREAS, Clark County continues to experience extraordinarily rapid population growth, and the Clark County School District is currently the fifth largest school district in the country; and

WHEREAS, Because Nevada ranks among the lowest in the country of the percentage of students who graduate and enter into postsecondary education, the further development and expansion of career and technical high schools may help to reduce the number of students who drop out of high school and thereby increase the

number of students who successfully graduate from high school and enter into career fields that are predicted to experience the largest and fastest growth; and

WHEREAS, On December 21, 1994, President Clinton designated nine census tracts in the urban core of the Las Vegas Valley as an "Enterprise Community" and accompanying that designation was the award of grants for projects in that area; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Nevada Enterprise Community was designed to increase employment opportunities for residents in the Enterprise Community as well as to increase the self-esteem and economic independence of those residents; and

WHEREAS, The funds expended for the Southern Nevada Enterprise Community have included programs for at-risk youth, including summer internship programs, exposure to the college environment and encouragement of the pursuit of higher education, now, therefore,

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

Section 1. The Legislature hereby finds that the establishment of a career and technical high school within the Southern Nevada Enterprise Community would support the continued efforts and success of that Community. Therefore, the Legislature hereby encourages the Clark County School District to construct a career and technical high school within the Southern Nevada Enterprise Community and, to the extent feasible, to complete the career and technical high school by August 2008.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.