

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10—SENATORS TITUS,
CARE, COFFIN, SCHNEIDER, WIENER, HECK, HORSFORD,
LEE, MCGINNESS, RAGGIO AND TOWNSEND

MARCH 17, 2005

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN BUCKLEY, ANDERSON,
PARNELL, PARKS, CLABORN, CONKLIN, GERHARDT,
HOLCOMB, HORNE, MORTENSON, MUNFORD,
OHRENSCHALL AND PIERCE

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim
study of funding available for maintenance,
operation and capital improvement of public schools.
(BDR R-896)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the
Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of
the funding that is available to school districts for the
maintenance, operation and capital improvement of public
schools.

- 1 WHEREAS, According to a seminal study issued by the United
- 2 States General Accounting Office in 1995, schools throughout this
- 3 nation are facing a significant need for the renovation, replacement
- 4 and expansion of basic infrastructure, and research completed by the
- 5 National Center for Education Statistics in 1999 estimated the
- 6 amount needed to correct the problems at \$127 billion; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Education has
- 8 documented that the average public school building in 1998 was 42
- 9 years old, an age at which schools tend to deteriorate; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The amount of money needed for infrastructure in
- 11 Nevada in 2000 was over \$5.2 billion, according to a study entitled
- 12 *Modernizing Our Schools: What Will It Cost?* which was released
- 13 by the National Education Association; and



1 WHEREAS, In Nevada, funding for public school buildings and
2 facilities is the responsibility of local school districts, and
3 historically most of the financial assistance from the State has come
4 in the form of specific appropriation bills that were introduced to
5 address a particular need; and

6 WHEREAS, The most prevalent forms of financing the
7 construction, remodeling and repair of school facilities in Nevada is
8 by the issuance, with voter approval, of general obligation bonds of
9 the school district, "pay-as-you-go" funding or fees on residential
10 construction; and

11 WHEREAS, The absolute need for well-equipped, well-
12 functioning schools in our State cannot be disputed, and the census
13 figures from 2000, which disclose that enrollment in Nevada's
14 schools increased by at least 212,474 since 1990, demonstrate the
15 growing need for money to construct and maintain more schools;
16 now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
18 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is
19 hereby directed to appoint a committee, including a Chairman of the
20 committee, to conduct an interim study on the funding that is
21 available to school districts in Nevada for the maintenance and
22 operations of and capital improvements to public schools; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the committee must be composed of six
25 Legislators as follows:

26 1. The Chairman of the Assembly Standing Committee on
27 Education, or his designee;

28 2. The Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Human
29 Resources and Education, or his designee;

30 3. One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the
31 Senate;

32 4. One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
33 Senate;

34 5. One member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly; and

35 6. One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
36 Assembly; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall appoint an
38 advisory committee composed of 10 nonvoting members who are
39 not Legislators to assist the committee, as follows:

40 1. One representative from the Department of Education;

41 2. One representative from the Department of Transportation;

42 3. One representative from the Clark County School District;

43 4. One representative from the Washoe County School District;

44 5. One representative from a school district located in a county
45 whose population is less than 100,000;



1 6. One representative from the Nevada State Education
2 Association; and

3 7. Four members who have the appropriate expertise in
4 technical and policy areas to advise the committee; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation:

6 1. An examination of all sources of revenue that are currently
7 available to the school districts in this State for the maintenance,
8 operations and capital improvements of public school buildings and
9 facilities;

10 2. The application of bonding capacity in Nevada's school
11 districts as schools are completed and capitalization needs decline;

12 3. An analysis of the issuance of bonds for school construction
13 and the expenses relating to school construction in other states that
14 may be relevant;

15 4. The feasibility of redirecting money from the issuance of
16 bonds for school construction to a variety of other expenses, such as
17 soft capital, refurbishment, deferred maintenance and general
18 operations; and

19 5. The manner by which the construction and renovation of
20 schools in this State should be funded to ensure that the educational
21 needs of pupils are met; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the
23 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the
24 Assembly and a majority of the members of the Senate appointed to
25 the committee; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a
27 report of the results of the study and any recommendations for
28 legislation to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.



