

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—SENATOR TIFFANY

MARCH 8, 2005

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study to develop plan to deconsolidate Clark County School District. (BDR R-721)

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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 to develop a plan for the deconsolidation of the Clark County School District.

1 WHEREAS, Public education plays a crucial role in producing
2 well-informed, educated and productive members of society; and

3 WHEREAS, The current organizational system of public
4 education in Nevada was established in 1956, wherein county
5 school districts were created, the boundaries of which are
6 coterminous with the boundaries of the counties of this State; and

7 WHEREAS, The population of the State of Nevada in 1956 was
8 240,100, with Clark County accounting for 40 percent of the
9 population; and

10 WHEREAS, The population of the State of Nevada has
11 dramatically increased during the past 48 years so that Nevada now
12 has a population of nearly 2.4 million, with Clark County
13 accounting for over 71 percent of the population; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1995, the Legislature directed the Legislative
15 Commission to conduct an interim study of the feasibility of
16 reconfiguring the structure of the school districts in this State
17 (File No. 161, Statutes of Nevada 1995, at page 3033); and

18 WHEREAS, Since the completion of that study in 1996, Clark
19 County has continued to experience an extraordinarily rapid
20 population growth; and

21 WHEREAS, During the 1995-1996 school year, the Clark County
22 School District had an enrollment of 166,788 pupils, and during the



1 2004-2005 school year, the district has an enrollment of 280,834
2 pupils, which is an increase of 68 percent since 1995; and

3 WHEREAS, During the 1995-1996 school year, the Clark County
4 School District was the 10th largest school district in the country,
5 and the district is now, 10 years later, the 5th largest school district
6 in the country; and

7 WHEREAS, During the 1995-1996 school year, the Clark County
8 School District employed nearly 7,930 full-time teachers, and
9 during the 2004-2005 school year, the Clark County School District
10 employs nearly 13,800 full-time teachers, which is an increase of 74
11 percent; and

12 WHEREAS, During the 1995-1996 school year, the Clark County
13 School District employed 337 full-time administrators, and during
14 the 2004-2005 school year, the Clark County School District
15 employs 631 full-time administrators, which is an increase of 87
16 percent; and

17 WHEREAS, The deconsolidation of the Clark County School
18 District is necessary to ensure that the system of public education
19 can more effectively educate the pupils who reside in Clark County
20 and be responsive to the concerns of the other residents of Clark
21 County; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
23 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is
24 hereby directed to appoint an interim committee, composed of three
25 members of the Assembly and three members of the Senate, one of
26 whom must be appointed as Chairman of the committee, to conduct
27 a study to develop a plan for the deconsolidation of the Clark
28 County School District by dividing the district into smaller school
29 districts which cover smaller geographic areas and serve fewer
30 pupils than the district does currently; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That the Chairman of the committee shall appoint a
32 nonvoting advisory committee as follows:

33 1. One representative of the employee organization that
34 represents the largest number of licensed employees in the Clark
35 County School District, appointed by that organization;

36 2. The Superintendent of Schools of the Clark County School
37 District, or his designee;

38 3. Two parents or legal guardians of pupils who attend public
39 schools within the Clark County School District;

40 4. One member of the Board of Trustees of the Clark County
41 School District; and

42 5. Other members as determined appropriate by the Chairman;
43 and be it further



1 RESOLVED, That the committee shall enter into a contract with a
2 qualified, independent, nationally recognized consultant to assist the
3 committee in developing its plan; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the committee shall develop a plan for the
5 deconsolidation of the Clark County School District, which must:

6 1. Set forth:

7 (a) The number of school districts that will result from the
8 deconsolidation and the geographic boundaries of those school
9 districts;

10 (b) The organizational structure of each school district that will
11 result from the deconsolidation;

12 (c) The manner in which the assets and outstanding bonded
13 indebtedness of the Clark County School District will be
14 proportionally divided among the school districts that result from
15 the deconsolidation;

16 (d) The composition and manner of election of the boards of
17 trustees of the school districts that result from the deconsolidation;

18 (e) The manner in which the licensed teachers and other
19 educational personnel who are currently employed by the Clark
20 County School District will be assigned or reassigned to the school
21 districts that result from the deconsolidation;

22 (f) The number of pupils who will be enrolled in each school
23 district;

24 (g) The specific steps that must be taken by the Legislature to
25 carry out the plan;

26 (h) The proposed effect of the deconsolidation on the academic
27 achievement of pupils who reside within Clark County and the
28 educational effectiveness of the public schools within the County;
29 and

30 (i) A timeline to carry out the plan;

31 2. Ensure that a uniform system of education will continue to
32 be offered throughout this State in accordance with Section 2 of
33 Article 11 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada;

34 3. Comply with all applicable judicial precedents and
35 constitutional requirements, including, without limitation,
36 requirements relating to racial and ethnic composition; and

37 4. Ensure that the new school districts will be eligible for
38 apportionments and allowances from the State Distributive School
39 Account pursuant to NRS 387.121 to 387.126, inclusive; and be it
40 further

41 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the
42 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the
43 Senate and a majority of the members of the Assembly appointed to
44 the committee; and be it further



- 1 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit the
- 2 results of the study, including, without limitation, the plan
- 3 developed by the committee and any recommendations for
- 4 legislation, to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

