

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 333—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

MARCH 15, 2007

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Requires the Legislative Committee on Education to study certain issues during the 2007-2009 interim. (BDR S-417)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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; requiring the Legislative Committee on Education to study certain issues during the 2007-2009 interim; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 The Legislative Committee on Education is a permanent statutory committee of
- 2 Legislators that meets during the interim between legislative sessions to study
- 3 various issues relating to education. (NRS 218.5351-218.5355) This bill requires
- 4 the Committee, during the 2007-2009 interim, to study the governance of public
- 5 schools, including the governance structure for kindergarten through grade 12 and
- 6 the feasibility and desirability of implementing a program of local autonomy for
- 7 public schools. This bill also requires the Chairman of the Committee to appoint a
- 8 subcommittee to study charter schools during the 2007-2009 interim.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** 1. The Legislative Committee on Education shall,
- 2 during the 2007-2009 interim, conduct a study of the governance of
- 3 the public schools in this State, including, without limitation:
- 4 (a) The feasibility and desirability of implementing a program of
- 5 local autonomy for public schools; and



(b) A review of the system of public education for kindergarten through grade 12 to ensure that the structure of governance is organized in a manner which provides for efficient operation and which meets the educational needs of the residents of this State.

2. The study must include, without limitation, a review of:

(a) Accountability measures that should be carried out by public schools that participate in a program of local autonomy;

(b) The provision of professional development for educational personnel in public schools that participate in a program of local autonomy in a manner that ensures effective school leaders;

(c) The effect of a program of local autonomy on existing collective bargaining agreements;

(d) The feasibility of performance-based contracts for employees of public schools that participate in a program of local autonomy;

(e) The duties, responsibilities and powers of principals of public schools that participate in a program of local autonomy;

(f) The role of teachers, parents and the community in decision making in public schools that participate in a program of local autonomy;

(g) The proposed effect of a program of local autonomy on the success and achievement of pupils;

(h) Guidelines for budgets for individual schools that participate in a program of local autonomy;

(i) The progress of the pilot project carried out in the Clark County School District referred to as "empowerment schools," including, without limitation, the identification of successful measures used in that pilot project which may be carried out as part of a statewide program of local autonomy for public schools; and

(j) The feasibility of authorizing individual teachers to negotiate year-round contracts with the school districts that employ the teachers.

➔ The Committee's review of the items set forth in this subsection must be made in recognition of the provisions of chapter 288 of NRS.

3. The Legislative Committee on Education shall submit a report of the results of the study conducted pursuant to this section and any recommendations for legislation to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Sec. 2. 1. The Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education shall appoint a subcommittee of the members of the Committee to study charter schools operating in this State.

2. The subcommittee appointed pursuant to subsection 1 shall:



(a) Review the accountability of charter schools and determine whether measures should be carried out to improve accountability;

(b) Review the money available for the operation of charter schools;

(c) Review the ability of charter schools to acquire suitable facilities and determine measures that may increase the availability of suitable facilities for charter schools;

(d) Review the governance structure of charter schools;

(e) Identify any restrictions on the operation of charter schools that should be revised or eliminated; and

(f) Identify practices carried out in other states to ensure the success of charter schools and determine the feasibility of carrying out those practices in this State.

3. On or before August 1, 2008, the subcommittee appointed pursuant to subsection 1 shall submit to the Legislative Committee on Education:

(a) A report of its findings; and

(b) Requests for the drafting of not more than five legislative measures which relate to matters within the scope of the study conducted by the subcommittee. Such requests are in addition to the number of requests authorized for the Legislative Committee on Education in paragraph (a) of subsection 3 of NRS 218.2429.

4. The Legislative Committee on Education shall:

(a) Approve or deny the requests for the drafting of legislative measures of the subcommittee; and

(b) On or before February 1, 2009, submit the report of the subcommittee to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

