

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 78—ASSEMBLYMEN KOIVISTO, CONKLIN,
MUNFORD, MCCLAIN, HORNE, DENIS, GERHARDT, LESLIE,
MANENDO, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PIERCE AND
SEGERBLOM

FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Requires the State Board of Education to adopt a
program of education relating to skin cancer.
(BDR 34-967)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

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

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the State Board of
Education to adopt a program of education relating to skin
cancer; and providing other matters properly relating
thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law establishes the courses of study and academic standards for pupils
2 enrolled in public schools. (Chapter 389 of NRS) This bill requires the State Board
3 of Education to adopt a program of education relating to skin cancer, including the
4 prevention of skin cancer. The program must be provided to pupils in kindergarten
5 and grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

1 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, skin
2 cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, Nevada has a rate of incidence of skin cancer of
4 24.48 cases per 100,000 residents, compared to a nationwide
5 incidence of 18.30 cases per 100,000 people; and

6 WHEREAS, Nevada has a high rate of melanoma, an aggressive
7 form of skin cancer, which accounts for 6.7 percent of all incidences
8 of cancer in this State, a percentage which is 1.3 times greater than
9 the national average; and



1 WHEREAS, The primary cause of skin cancer is exposure to
2 ultraviolet rays from natural sunlight and artificial sources; and

3 WHEREAS, Exposure to the sun and a history of sunburns during
4 childhood and adolescence are directly linked to a lifetime risk of
5 developing skin cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in
7 an effort to provide educational information to pupils and assist
8 schools in promoting safe practices for sun exposure, has published
9 the "Guidelines for School Programs to Prevent Skin Cancer" and
10 "Shade Planning for America's Schools"; and

11 WHEREAS, The public schools in this State have the opportunity
12 to provide educational information to pupils concerning the
13 prevention of skin cancer and to encourage pupils to adopt positive
14 behaviors to reduce their risk of skin cancer; and

15 WHEREAS, The members of the 74th Session of the Nevada
16 Legislature hereby recognize the importance of the promotion of
17 safe practices for sun exposure and the prevention of skin cancer
18 among youths in this State; now, therefore,

19
20 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
21 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
22

23 **Section 1.** Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
24 thereto a new section to read as follows:

25 ***1. The State Board shall adopt regulations that prescribe a***
26 ***program of education relating to skin cancer. The program must***
27 ***include:***

28 ***(a) The facts concerning skin cancer;***

29 ***(b) Instruction on the harmful effects of exposure to***
30 ***ultraviolet radiation; and***

31 ***(c) Instruction on strategies and behaviors designed to reduce***
32 ***the risk of developing skin cancer.***

33 ***2. The board of trustees of each school district shall ensure***
34 ***that the program required pursuant to subsection 1 is provided to***
35 ***pupils enrolled in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, at a***
36 ***level of detail appropriate for the ages of the pupils. The program***
37 ***may be included in a course that is otherwise provided to pupils.***

38 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

