

SENATE BILL NO. 239—COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

MARCH 7, 2007

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Education

SUMMARY—Creates the P-16 Advisory Council. (BDR 34-416)

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; creating the P-16 Advisory Council to assist in the coordination between elementary, secondary and higher education in this State; providing for the organization, powers and duties of the Council; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 This bill creates the P-16 Advisory Council to assist in the coordination
2 between elementary, secondary and higher education in this State.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** Title 34 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new chapter to consist of the provisions set forth as
3 sections 2 to 9 inclusive, of this act.
4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise*
5 *requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 and 4 of this*
6 *act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*
7 **Sec. 3.** *“Council” means the P-16 Advisory Council created*
8 *by section 6 of this act.*
9 **Sec. 4.** *“System” means the Nevada System of Higher*
10 *Education.*



* S B 2 3 9 *

Sec. 5. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. The Board of Regents of the University of Nevada was created by the Nevada Constitution and empowered to control and manage the affairs of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

2. Matters relating to higher education are vitally important to the future of the State of Nevada, its economy and the general welfare of its residents. In light of the growing enrollments in Nevada's public system of higher education, it is important that the Nevada Legislature, the Board of Regents and the Executive Branch of the State Government work together as partners in developing a needed public agenda to advance higher education in this State.

3. The development of an agenda to advance higher education should be carried out with a view toward seeking input from all parties who have a stake in the advancement of higher education in this State, including, without limitation, the students who participate in Nevada's public system of higher education.

4. Coordination between elementary, secondary and higher education must be strengthened to ensure that pupils in the 12th grade are prepared adequately to make the transition from secondary education to higher education or to careers. To this end, a body should be established to coordinate education from the level of preschool through the completion of a bachelor's degree, to be known as the P-16 Advisory Council.

Sec. 6. 1. The P-16 Advisory Council, consisting of 15 voting members, is hereby created to assist in the coordination between elementary, secondary and higher education in this State.

2. The Chancellor of the System and the Superintendent of Public Instruction serve as ex officio voting members of the Council.

3. The Governor shall appoint five members to the Council as follows:

(a) One representative of higher education in this State.

(b) One representative of elementary and secondary education in this State.

(c) One representative of private business in this State.

(d) One person that meets the qualifications of paragraph (a), (b) or (c).

(e) One pupil enrolled in a secondary school or one student enrolled in the System to serve as a representative of public education for kindergarten through postsecondary education.

4. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint four members to the Council as follows:



1 (a) One member of the House of the Legislature that he
2 represents.

3 (b) One representative of higher education in this State.

4 (c) One representative of elementary and secondary education
5 in this State.

6 (d) One representative of private business in this State.

7 5. After the initial terms, each appointed member of the
8 Council serves a term of 3 years commencing on July 1 of the year
9 of appointment. Such members may be reappointed for one
10 additional term. A vacancy on the Council must be filled in the
11 same manner as the original appointment.

12 **Sec. 7. 1. The Council shall meet at least once each**
13 **calendar quarter.**

14 2. The members of the Council shall elect a Chairman and a
15 Vice Chairman from among the membership of the Council. After
16 the initial election, the Chairman and Vice Chairman serve in the
17 office for a term of 1 year beginning on July 1 of each year. If a
18 vacancy occurs in the chairmanship or vice chairmanship, the
19 members of the Council shall elect a Chairman or Vice Chairman,
20 as appropriate, from among the members to serve for the
21 remainder of the unexpired term.

22 3. For each day or portion of a day during which the
23 members of the Council attend a meeting of the Council or are
24 otherwise engaged in the business of the Council:

25 (a) The members who are Legislators are entitled to receive the
26 compensation provided for a majority of the members of the
27 Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding regular
28 session plus the per diem allowance provided for state officers and
29 employees generally and the travel expenses provided pursuant to
30 NRS 218.2207, payable from the Legislative Fund.

31 (b) The members who are appointed by the Majority Leader of
32 the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly who are not
33 Legislators are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and
34 travel expenses provided for state officers and employees
35 generally, payable from the Legislative Fund.

36 (c) The members who are appointed by the Governor are
37 entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses
38 provided for state officers and employees generally, payable as
39 other claims against the State are paid.

40 4. The Legislative Counsel Bureau shall provide
41 administrative support to the Council.

42 **Sec. 8. 1. The Council shall address:**

43 (a) Methods to increase the number of students who enroll in
44 programs at the System to become teachers, including, without



1 *limitation, financial aid programs for students enrolled in those*
2 *programs.*

3 *(b) Methods to ensure the successful transition of pupils from:*

4 *(1) Elementary school to middle school;*

5 *(2) Middle school to high school; and*

6 *(3) High school to postsecondary education,*

7 *↪ including, without limitation, methods to increase parental*
8 *involvement.*

9 *(c) Methods to ensure that the data information system for the*
10 *pupils enrolled in the public schools is linked, to the extent*
11 *feasible, with the data information system for the students enrolled*
12 *in the System.*

13 *(d) Methods to ensure that the course work, standards and*
14 *assessments required of pupils in secondary schools is aligned*
15 *with the workload expected of students at the postsecondary level.*

16 *(e) Other matters within the scope of the Council as*
17 *determined necessary or appropriate by the Council.*

18 *2. The Council may:*

19 *(a) Establish committees to assist the Council in carrying out*
20 *its duties.*

21 *(b) Apply for any available grants and may accept any gifts,*
22 *grants and donations from any source to assist the Council in*
23 *carrying out its duties.*

24 *Sec. 9. On or before June 30 of each year, the Council shall*
25 *submit a written report of its activities and any recommendations*
26 *to the:*

27 *1. Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;*

28 *2. State Board;*

29 *3. Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal*
30 *to the next regular session of the Legislature; and*

31 *4. Legislative Committee on Education.*

32 *Sec. 10. 1. On or before September 1, 2007, the Governor*
33 *shall, pursuant to subsection 3 of section 6 of this act, appoint to the*
34 *P-16 Advisory Council created by that section:*

35 *(a) Three members to terms commencing on September 1, 2007,*
36 *and expiring on June 30, 2009.*

37 *(b) Two members to terms commencing on September 1, 2007,*
38 *and expiring on June 30, 2010.*

39 *2. On or before September 1, 2007, the Majority Leader of the*
40 *Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall, pursuant to*
41 *subsection 4 of section 6 of this act, each appoint to the P-16*
42 *Advisory Council created by that section:*

43 *(a) Two members to terms commencing on September 1, 2007,*
44 *and expiring on June 30, 2009.*



- 1 (b) Two members to terms commencing on September 1, 2007,
2 and expiring on June 30, 2010.
3 **Sec. 11.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

