

Senate Bill No. 239—Committee on
Human Resources and Education

CHAPTER.....

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:

This bill creates the P-16 Advisory Council to assist in the coordination 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:

Section 1. Title 34 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new chapter to consist of the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 9 inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. *As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 and 4 of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

Sec. 3. *“Council” means the P-16 Advisory Council created by section 6 of this act.*

Sec. 4. *“System” means the Nevada System of Higher Education.*

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 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 system of public elementary and secondary education and Nevada's system of public higher education, it is important that the Nevada Legislature, the Board of Regents, the State Board and the Executive Branch of the State Government work together as partners in developing a needed public agenda to advance education in this State.

3. The development of an agenda to advance education should be carried out with a view toward seeking input from all parties who have a stake in the advancement of education in this State.



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 11 voting members, is hereby created to assist in the coordination between elementary, secondary and higher education in this State. The Chancellor of the System and the Superintendent of Public Instruction serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the Council.

2. 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 member who is a parent of a pupil enrolled in a public school in this State or of a student enrolled in the System. The parent must not be employed by the board of trustees of a school district, the governing body of a charter school or the System.

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

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

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

(b) One person who meets the qualifications of paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection 2.

4. The Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall each appoint one member to the Council who is a member of the general public.

5. The members of the Council shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among the members of the Council. After the initial term, the Chairman and Vice Chairman serve in the office for a term of 2 years beginning July 1 of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs in the chairmanship or vice chairmanship, the members of the Council shall elect a member to fill the vacancy to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of that office.

6. After the initial terms, each member of the Council serves a term of 3 years commencing on July 1 of the year of appointment. Such members may be reappointed for one



additional term. A vacancy on the Council must be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. Each member of the Council continues in office until his successor is appointed.

7. Any member who is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Council without permission of the Chairman:

(a) Forfeits his office; and

(b) Must be replaced as provided in subsection 6 for the filling of a vacancy before the end of a term.

Sec. 7. 1. The Council shall meet at least once each calendar quarter and as frequently as necessary to afford the general public, representatives of governmental agencies and representatives of organizations an opportunity to present information and recommendations relating to the coordination between elementary, secondary and postsecondary education, including, without limitation, the Nevada Youth Legislative Issues Forum created by section 3 of Senate Bill No. 247 of this Session and the Advisory Council on Parental Involvement established by section 3 of Senate Bill No. 143 of this Session.

2. The Council shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.

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

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

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

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

4. The Office of the Governor shall provide:

(a) Administrative support;

(b) Equipment; and



(c) Office space,

↪ as is necessary for the Council to carry out its duties.

5. The Board of Regents of the University of Nevada and the Department shall provide technical assistance to the Council upon the request of the Chairman.

Sec. 8. 1. The Council shall address:

(a) Methods to increase the number of students who enroll in programs at the System to become teachers, including, without limitation, financial aid programs for students enrolled in those programs.

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

(1) Elementary school to middle school;

(2) Middle school to high school; and

(3) High school to postsecondary education,

↪ including, without limitation, methods to increase parental involvement.

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

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

(e) Methods to ensure collaboration among the business community, members of the academic community and political leaders to set forth a process for developing strategies for the growth and diversification of the economy of this State.

(f) Policies relating to workforce development, employment needs of private employers and workforce shortages in occupations critical to the education, health and safety of the residents of this State.

(g) Other matters within the scope of the Council as determined necessary or appropriate by the Council.

2. The Council may:

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

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

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

1. Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;

2. State Board;



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

4. Legislative Committee on Education; and

5. Governor.

Sec. 10. 1. On or before September 1, 2007, the Governor shall, pursuant to subsection 2 of section 6 of this act, appoint to the P-16 Advisory Council created by that section:

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

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

2. On or before September 1, 2007, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall, pursuant to subsection 3 of section 6 of this act, each appoint to the P-16 Advisory Council created by that section:

(a) One member of the House of the Legislature that he represents to a term commencing on September 1, 2007, and expiring on June 30, 2010.

(b) One member who meets the requirements of paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection 2 of section 6 of this act to a term commencing on September 1, 2007, and expiring on June 30, 2009.

3. On or before September 1, 2007, the Minority Leader of the Senate shall, pursuant to subsection 4 of section 6 of this act, appoint to the P-16 Advisory Council created by that section one member to a term commencing on September 1, 2007, and expiring on June 30, 2009.

4. On or before September 1, 2007, the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall, pursuant to subsection 4 of section 6 of this act, appoint to the P-16 Advisory Council created by that section one member to a term commencing on September 1, 2007, and expiring on June 30, 2010.

Sec. 11. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 12. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

