

SENATE BILL NO. 19—COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

PREFILED DECEMBER 5, 2008

Referred to Committee on Health and Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the award of grants of money by the Commission on Educational Excellence. (BDR 34-302)

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

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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; revising provisions governing the award of grants of money from the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation by the Commission on Educational Excellence; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 The Commission on Educational Excellence awards grants of money from the
- 2 Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation for
- 3 programs designed for pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 6 and pupils
- 4 enrolled in grades 7 through 12. (NRS 385.3781-385.379) This bill requires the
- 5 Commission, when awarding grants for programs designed for pupils enrolled in
- 6 grades 7 through 12, to give first priority to applications for programs designed for
- 7 pupils enrolled in grades 7 and 8 who have not completed the courses of study or
- 8 credits required for promotion to the next grade or promotion to high school, as
- 9 applicable. (NRS 385.3785)

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

- 1 **Section 1.** NRS 385.3785 is hereby amended to read as
- 2 follows:
- 3 385.3785 1. The Commission shall:



(a) Establish a program of educational excellence designed exclusively for pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 6 in public schools in this State based upon:

(1) The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.34691;

(2) The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the board of trustees of each school district pursuant to NRS 385.348;

(3) The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the principal of each school pursuant to NRS 385.357, which may include a program of innovation; and

(4) Any other information that the Commission considers relevant to the development of the program of educational excellence.

(b) Identify programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.

(c) Develop a concise application and simple procedures for the submission of applications by public schools and consortiums of public schools, including, without limitation, charter schools, for participation in a program of educational excellence and for grants of money from the Account. Grants of money must be made for programs designed for the achievement of pupils that are linked to the plan to improve the achievement of pupils or for innovative programs, or both. The Commission shall not award a grant of money from the Account for a program to provide full-day kindergarten. All public schools and consortiums of public schools, including, without limitation, charter schools, are eligible to submit such an application, regardless of whether the schools have made adequate yearly progress or failed to make adequate yearly progress. A public school or a consortium of public schools selected for participation may be approved by the Commission for participation for a period not to exceed 2 years, but may reapply.

(d) Prescribe a long-range timeline for the review, approval and evaluation of applications received from public schools and consortiums of public schools that desire to participate in the program.

(e) Establish guidelines for the review, evaluation and approval of applications for grants of money from the Account, including, without limitation, consideration of the list of priorities of public schools provided by the Department pursuant to subsection 5. To ensure consistency in the review, evaluation and approval of applications, if the guidelines authorize the review and evaluation of applications by less than the entire membership of the Commission, money must not be allocated from the Account for a grant until the



1 entire membership of the Commission has reviewed and approved
2 the application for the grant.

3 (f) Prescribe accountability measures to be carried out by a
4 public school that participates in the program if that public school
5 does not meet the annual measurable objectives established by the
6 State Board pursuant to NRS 385.361, including, without limitation:

7 (1) The specific levels of achievement expected of schools
8 that participate; and

9 (2) Conditions for schools that do not meet the grant criteria
10 but desire to continue participation in the program and receive
11 money from the Account, including, without limitation, a review of
12 the leadership at the school and recommendations regarding changes
13 to the appropriate body.

14 (g) Determine the amount of money that is available from the
15 Account for those public schools and consortiums of public schools
16 that are selected to participate in the program.

17 (h) Allocate money to public schools and consortiums of public
18 schools from the Account. Allocations must be distributed not later
19 than August 15 of each year.

20 (i) Establish criteria for public schools and consortiums of
21 public schools that participate in the program and receive an
22 allocation of money from the Account to evaluate the effectiveness
23 of the allocation in improving the achievement of pupils, including,
24 without limitation, a detailed analysis of:

25 (1) The achievement of pupils enrolled at each school that
26 received money from the allocation based upon measurable criteria
27 identified in the plan to improve the achievement of pupils for the
28 school prepared pursuant to NRS 385.357;

29 (2) If applicable, the effectiveness of the program of
30 innovation on the achievement of pupils and the overall
31 effectiveness for pupils and staff;

32 (3) The implementation of the applicable plans for
33 improvement, including, without limitation, an analysis of whether
34 the school is meeting the measurable objectives identified in the
35 plan; and

36 (4) The attainment of measurable progress on the annual list
37 of adequate yearly progress of school districts and schools.

38 2. To the extent money is available, the Commission shall
39 make allocations of money to public schools and consortiums of
40 public schools for effective programs for grades 7 through 12 that
41 are designed to improve the achievement of pupils and effective
42 programs of innovation for pupils. In making such allocations, the
43 Commission shall ~~comply~~ :

44 (a) *Comply* with the requirements of subsection 1 ~~H~~ ; and



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(b) Give first priority to applications which propose to establish or maintain a program that is designed for pupils enrolled in grades 7 and 8 who have not completed the courses of study or credits required for promotion to the next grade or promotion to high school, as applicable, and that assists those pupils in making a successful transition to high school. If more applications are submitted for such programs than the amount of money available, the Commission shall make its determination based upon the list of priorities of schools provided by the Department pursuant to subsection 5.

3. The Commission shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that grants of money provided pursuant to this section reflect the economic and geographic diversity of this State.

4. If a public school or consortium that receives money pursuant to subsection 1 or 2:

(a) Does not meet the criteria for effectiveness as prescribed in paragraph (i) of subsection 1;

(b) Does not, as a result of the program for which the grant of money was awarded, show improvement in the achievement of pupils, as determined in an evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.379; or

(c) Does not implement the program for which the money was received, as determined in an evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.379,

➔ over a 2-year period, the Commission may consider not awarding future allocations of money to that public school or consortium of public schools.

5. On or before July 1 of each year, the Department shall provide a list of priorities of public schools that indicates:

(a) The adequate yearly progress status of schools in the immediately preceding year; and

(b) The public schools that are considered Title I eligible by the Department based upon the poverty level of the pupils enrolled in a school in comparison to the poverty level of the pupils in the school district as a whole,

➔ for consideration by the Commission in its development of procedures for the applications.

6. A public school, including, without limitation, a charter school, or a consortium of public schools may request assistance from the school district in which the school is located in preparing an application for a grant of money pursuant to this section. A school district shall assist each public school or consortium of public schools that requests assistance pursuant to this subsection to ensure that the application of the school:



1 (a) Is based directly upon the plan to improve the achievement
2 of pupils prepared for the school pursuant to NRS 385.357;

3 (b) Is developed in accordance with the criteria established by
4 the Commission; and

5 (c) Is complete and complies with all technical requirements for
6 the submission of an application.

7 ➤ A school district may make recommendations to the individual
8 schools and consortiums of public schools. Such schools and
9 consortiums of public schools are not required to follow the
10 recommendations of a school district.

11 7. In carrying out the requirements of this section, the
12 Commission shall review and consider the programs of remedial
13 study adopted by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.389, the list
14 of approved providers of supplemental *educational* services
15 maintained by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.384 and the
16 recommendations submitted by the Committee pursuant to NRS
17 218.5354 concerning programs, practices and strategies that have
18 proven effective in improving the academic achievement and
19 proficiency of pupils.

20 8. If a consortium of public schools is formed for the purpose
21 of submitting an application pursuant to this section, the public
22 schools within the consortium do not need to be located within the
23 same school district.

24 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2009.

