S.B. 317

SENATE BILL NO. 317–SENATORS COPENING, PARKS, WOODHOUSE, WIENER; AND CARLTON

MARCH 16, 2009

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMAN SEGERBLOM

Referred to Committee on Health and Education

SUMMARY—Requires instruction on financial literacy in the public high schools. (BDR 34-1109)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
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 a pupil to satisfactorily complete instruction in financial literacy as a condition to the receipt of a high school diploma; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the academic subjects, standards and courses of study for the public schools in this State. (Chapter 389 of NRS) This bill requires the Department of Education to ensure that instruction in financial literacy is provided to pupils enrolled in the public high schools in each school district and in each charter school that operates as a high school. A pupil must demonstrate satisfactory completion of the instruction by passage of an examination before he may receive a diploma.

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

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

1. The Department shall ensure that instruction in financial literacy is provided to pupils enrolled in the public high schools within each school district and in each charter school that

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includes pupils enrolled at the high school grade levels. The instruction must include, without limitation:

(a) The skills necessary to develop financial responsibility, including, without limitation:

(1) Making reasonable financial decisions by analyzing the alternatives and consequences of those financial decisions;

(2) Locating and evaluating financial information from various sources;

(3) Developing communication strategies to discuss financial issues;

(4) Controlling personal information; and

(5) Reviewing and summarizing federal and state consumer protection laws.

(b) The skills necessary to manage finances, including, without limitation:

(1) Developing a plan for spending and saving;

(2) Developing a system for keeping and using financial records; and

(3) Developing a personal financial plan.

(c) The skills necessary to understand the use of credit and the incurrence of debt, including, without limitation:

(1) Identifying the costs and benefits of various types of credit;

(2) Explaining the purpose of a credit report, including, without limitation, the manner in which a credit report is used by lenders;

(3) Describing the rights of a borrower regarding his credit report;

(4) Identifying methods to avoid and resolve debt problems; and

(5) Reviewing and summarizing federal and state consumer credit protection laws.

(d) The skills necessary to understand the basic principles of saving and investing, including, without limitation:

(1) Understanding how saving and investing contribute to financial well-being;

(2) Understanding the methods of investing and alternatives to investing;

(3) Understanding how to buy and sell investments; and

(4) Understanding how the regulation of financial institutions protects investors.

2. The instruction required by subsection 1 may be included within a course of instruction that pupils enrolled in high school are otherwise required to complete for graduation.

3. In addition to satisfying the requirements of NRS 389.805 and all other requirements for graduation from high school, a pupil must demonstrate satisfactory completion of the instruction in financial responsibility by passage of an examination before he may receive a diploma.

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