

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Seventy-Seventh Session  
April 24, 2013**

The Committee on Education was called to order by Chairman Elliot T. Anderson at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, in Room 3142 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at [nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013](http://nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013). In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: [publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us); telephone: 775-684-6835).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson, Chairman  
Assemblyman Paul Aizley  
Assemblywoman Lesley E. Cohen  
Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz  
Assemblyman Wesley Duncan  
Assemblyman Andy Eisen  
Assemblywoman Michele Fiore  
Assemblyman Randy Kirner  
Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford  
Assemblywoman Dina Neal  
Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart  
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank  
Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Assemblywoman Marilyn Dondero Loop, Vice Chairwoman (excused)



**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Washoe County Senatorial District No. 16  
Senator Barbara K. Cegavske, Clark County Senatorial District No. 8  
Senator Ruben J. Kihuen, Clark County Senatorial District No. 10

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Todd Butterworth, Committee Policy Analyst  
Andrew Diss, Committee Manager  
Jacque Lethbridge, Committee Secretary  
Sharon McCallen, Committee Secretary  
Ashlynd Baker, Committee Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Steve G. George, Chief of Staff, Office of the State Treasurer  
Constance Brooks, representing Nevada System of Higher Education  
Gary Olsen, Private Citizen, Carson City, Nevada  
Brian Daw, representing Clark County School District  
Janine Hansen, representing Nevada Families  
Jared Kahn, representing Elite Sports Group  
Wade White Jr., President/Chief Executive Officer, Elite Sports Group  
Omar Carrillo, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada  
Laree Murillo, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada  
Alexzandria Mastin, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks,  
Nevada

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

[Roll was called. Housekeeping, protocol, and procedures were explained.]  
I will open the hearing on Senate Bill 102 (1st Reprint).

**Senate Bill 102 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the Kenny C. Guinn Memorial Millennium Scholarship. (BDR 34-837)**

**Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Washoe County Senatorial District No. 16:**

Senate Bill 102 (R1) is a follow-up piece of legislation to what was created in the statute last session. This is a bill that I sponsored on behalf of the Guinn family to create the Kenny C. Guinn Memorial Millennium Scholarship for future educators in Nevada who are also Millennium Scholars. The purpose is to help Nevada's future teachers cover the full cost of tuition in their senior year of college. The program is structured and funded by a board created by the original bill that reviews applicants for the Memorial Millennium Scholarship.

The scholarship is funded by private donations that are made to an account that was created in honor of Governor Guinn after his passing. The revenues in that account have exceeded expectations to the point that the Guinn family would like to propose creating a second annual scholarship to be awarded for a future educator in memory of the former Governor.

This bill expands the number of memorial scholarships that are available for distribution from one to two annually. As Mr. Stewart just told me, this is a full doubling of the number of available scholarships. It designates one to the north and one to the south.

The bill was amended in the Senate after consultation with the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) to ensure that any additional college or university that designates a bachelor's of arts in education program be eligible for this. A student attending any future programs created would be eligible for the scholarship. The bill also designates, by statute, which institutions qualify for the northern and southern scholarships.

It is a good bill with no fiscal impact. It is a good memorial to our former Governor. I would appreciate the Committee's support.

Seated to my left is Mr. Steve George who is now the Chief of Staff of the Treasurer's Office, which administers the program, and is also a personal friend of the Guinn family and formerly served the Governor while he was in office.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Mr. Stewart is on it, but I was going to say it was a 100 percent increase in the number of scholarships. Statistics can be fun when you start playing around with them.

**Assemblyman Kirner:**

You say your returns are good enough to fund two scholarships. Is this up to two? If your revenue does not stay at the current level, or your donations do not continue at their present rate, could you give one scholarship as opposed to two? Is it mandatory that you give two scholarships?

**Senator Kieckhefer:**

The language says that the board shall award a scholarship to the north and one to the south. The amount of revenue that has come into the scholarship fund should be sufficient to cover the awards for the foreseeable future. The amount of the actual scholarship award is, at this point, the gap between the amount the Millennium Scholarship provides and the actual cost of tuition fees for a student's education in their senior year.

When the Millennium Scholarship was originally created, it was designed to cover the full cost of tuition fees. As time has passed, the scholarship award has not grown commensurate with inflation in the increases in tuition and fees that the system and we have imposed. A gap has been created and it is designed to cover that gap. It is not hugely significant.

**Steve G. George, Chief of Staff, Office of the State Treasurer:**

With regard to your first question, there is about \$200,000 in that account now. The award per student is a maximum of \$4,500 per year. Just this year alone, we have received donations to cover the two people. Out of the blue, I will receive a \$5,000 check. Many of you knew Governor Guinn and he still resonates in people's minds.

To Senator Kieckhefer's point, \$200,000 will cover a lot of years. We have approximately 500 different donators over the course of time. As I said previously, it covers up to \$4,500 and to qualify for this, you have to be a Millennium scholar in good standing, and you have to be majoring in education with an intent to teach in Nevada. The student can receive up to \$4,500 to cover the difference in their cost. They do not get the \$4,500; it goes to the school they are attending. If their cost is \$2,000, that is what they would receive.

**Assemblyman Stewart:**

We have some students here from the sixth grade. Do you anticipate there will still be money for them if some of them are going to be teachers? Is that correct? Are there any young people here that are going to be teachers?

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Let the record reflect that every single child raised its hand.

**Assemblyman Stewart:**

So, Mr. George, you anticipate there will still be money for scholarships when these sixth graders are ready to continue their education.

**Steve George:**

I can say unequivocally the Kenny C. Guinn Memorial Millennium Scholarship will be there, because the \$200,000 will provide scholarships for many years.

As for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship, which is a different element, the funding currently goes through 2017 or 2018. We are hoping for changes to that so it will continue. I have children that I would love to see get that scholarship. I am sure Senator Kieckhefer does as well.

**Assemblyman Aizley:**

If you look at the probability that a southern student would receive one of these scholarships, as opposed to the probability of a northern student receiving one of the scholarships, with the disparate populations, the southerners would be more disadvantaged. If we have all of that money, maybe two in the south and one in the north would even out the probabilities.

**Senator Kieckhefer:**

I was an English major and do not do probability very well. I am happy to entertain amendments as they are proposed. I would have to discuss it with the financial team to figure out what the sustainability of that would be.

**Steve George:**

Mr. Aizley, I will tell you that this will be the third year. The first year it was someone from the north. Last year it was someone from the south. As Senator Kieckhefer mentioned, there is a selection committee. Someone from NSHE is on that committee as well as Steve Guinn, Dixie May, Carole Vilardo and I. We have already reviewed the applicants for this year, and in anticipation of this bill going forward, we have already selected the persons to give to the board as our nominees from the north and from the south. We will always have one from the north and one from the south.

**Assemblyman Aizley:**

I do not hear any response to the probability argument.

**Senator Kieckhefer:**

The potential of the probabilities are influenced more by who sits on the committee than the population base.

**Assemblyman Stewart:**

I would like to remind my colleague from the south that there is a significant number of the University of Nevada, Reno population from the south.

**Steve George:**

I do not know that for sure, but I would assume you are correct.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Are there any further questions? Seeing none, thank you both. We will open up the table for testimony in support of S.B. 102 (R1).

**Constance Brooks, representing Nevada System of Higher Education:**

We would like to voice our support for this bill and thank Senator Kieckhefer for having the wherewithal to expand this scholarship program. We are always in

favor of our students receiving more opportunities in order to fund their educational endeavors.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Are there any further testimonies from Carson City or Las Vegas? [There were none.] Is there any opposition either here in Carson City or Las Vegas? [There was none.] Is there anyone neutral here in Carson City or Las Vegas? [There was no one.] Senator Kieckhefer, are there any closing remarks? [There were none.]

We will close the hearing on Senate Bill 102 (1st Reprint). We will open the hearing on Senate Bill 163.

**Senate Bill 163: Requires certain schools in this State to provide pupils with instruction in civics. (BDR 34-667)**

**Senator Barbara K. Cegavske, Clark County Senatorial District No. 8:**

Before I speak to Senate Bill 163, I would like to make several comments.

I would like to point out a 2012 Education Testing Services (ETS) report. It is titled *Fault Lines in Our Democracy: Civic Knowledge, Voting Behavior, and Civic Engagement in the United States*. [Read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit C](#))].

I urge you to look at the materials on the website. It is <iCivics.org>. It is a program I learned about at the national conference of Education Commission of the States (ECS), which Nevada belongs to. You have participants such as Assemblywoman Marilyn Dondero Loop, who is a commissioner for the state and has attended many meetings with me.

Sandra Day O'Connor attended the ECS conference, and she was able to tell us that she now has 17 programs on that website. It is interactive, so anyone can use it from their home, and teachers can use it in the classroom. Again, it is free and can be used from anywhere. It has teacher programs to help educate the teachers. [Continued to read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).]

I have also included a handout for the committee, a brand new publication from the Education Commission of the States called *The New Civics: Civic Learning is not Flat Learning* ([Exhibit D](#)).

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

I am looking forward to a day when my constituents do not ask what I assemble. Every election I participate in, someone asks, "Elliot, what do you do?"

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

It is a great bill. Did you feel like the textbooks currently used in high school classrooms were lacking in this area? I have seen some of them and there are at least three chapters discussing the *United States Constitution* and *Declaration of Independence*. It starts with the history of the country, and then gets into the different areas.

**Senator Cegavske:**

For those of you who remember, we had an in-depth study done regarding our standards. We asked that a commission be provided. In doing so, we found that the standards were being taught in elementary school, not so much in middle school, and not at all in high school. That is why standards have been evolving and coming forward.

In talking to the Clark County School District (CCSD) civics personnel, I received phone calls from people I had never met regarding this bill. They are so excited about S.B. 163, because they also feel it is not being taught in the right format. When I talk to teachers, they think we are teaching out of sequence. Students are not learning the process and how civics began and how it evolved. They are getting segments, but at different times. There are teachers, such as Assemblyman Munford, who I have known for many years and worked with at Bonanza High School, who know civics and teach it the correct way. It has become an issue, and sitting on ECS since 1997, we have heard from other states that are having the same issue.

One of the biggest concerns was the cost. That is what Sandra Day O'Connor was able to accomplish. Everything she has done has allowed us to do it for free. It is there because it means that much to her, to make sure we are educating.

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

I should be happy because my school, Cheyenne High School, actually has a civil liberties class. I have spoken there a couple of times and it has an American government class and a separate class where they go over the *United States Constitution* and civil rights. I should be giving accolades to my principal at Cheyenne High School.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Are there any questions from the Committee? Seeing none, we will move to testimony in support of S.B. 163. Is there any particular order you would like us to call?

**Senator Cegavske:**

Mr. Olsen and the interpreter are here.

**Gary Olsen, Private Citizen, Carson City, Nevada:**

[Translated by signing interpreter Gerianne Hummel from Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center.]

I cannot help but agree more than 100 percent and if I were better in math, I would figure out a way to be over 100 percent. The important thing is many people do not have a good understanding of people's rights. This kind of thing will help very much. I myself am a social science teacher. I have always taught and believed firmly that it is what makes America tick, having that understanding. I hope you will support S.B. 163. Thank you.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Are there any questions for Mr. Olsen? Seeing none, we will open up the table for those in support.

**Brian Daw, representing Clark County School District:**

We currently provide instruction in high school on the essentials of S.B. 163, and instruction to children in grades K-5 on citizenship and the law, the federal system, state and local government, and the political process. [Read from prepared text ([Exhibit E](#)).]

**Janine Hansen, representing Nevada Families:**

We support S.B. 163. We feel that it is very important because civics teach people how the government works and how they can get involved. This is essentially the important part of "we the people" in participating. I have spoken in high schools almost every year since the 1970s. I find there are a few students who really understand government, but most of them do not have a clue how to get involved. One of the things I tell them is that if they do not get involved, other people will be making the important decisions for them. It is critical that we encourage students to be involved.

One of the things we did as a project this year is have several citizen lobbyist seminars—two in southern Nevada and one in northern Nevada. We taught people how to be citizen lobbyists, either here in this building or from their homes. Most people do not understand how the process works. The seminars



were very enlightening to them, and they are eager to know. They are not so afraid to come into the building, make a phone call, or send an email if they understand how the process works. We really do want people to be engaged so that you, as representatives, can represent them and they can be part of the process and buy into it. They can make a difference. Civics is the basis of participation, certainly, after high school if they have been prepared there.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Is there anyone in support in Las Vegas? [There was no one.] Is there anyone opposed either here in Carson City or in Las Vegas? [There was no one.] Is there anyone in neutral in Carson City or Las Vegas? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on Senate Bill 163, and open the hearing on Senate Bill 125 (1st Reprint).

**Senate Bill 125 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to rules and regulations of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association. (BDR 34-871)**

**Senator Ruben J. Kihuen, Clark County Senatorial District No. 10:**

First and foremost, I want to say thank you to Assemblyman Munford for signing as a cosponsor of this bill. Also, a quick shout out to my Assemblywoman Heidi Swank for representing our district with dignity and respect.

In Las Vegas, we have Mr. Jared Khan and Mr. Wade White with Elite Sports Group, which is the organization that is backing this piece of legislation. [Senator Kihuen read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit F](#)).]

To give you a brief overview, I met with Mr. White and Mr. Kahn about a year ago and they explained what is happening with this All-Star game they organize every year which helps approximately 40 to 45 students obtain a scholarship to go to college.

**Jared Kahn, representing Elite Sports Group:**

Thank you for taking the time and for granting us a hearing on this bill. This hopefully is not too controversial, but I would like to give you some background about why we are here today.

Elite Sports Group has an organization in the High School Senior Bowl which is a nonprofit company that holds an annual All-Star game for Tier 2 football athletes to have additional exposure to college recruiters to be able to obtain scholarships ([Exhibit G](#)).

The nonprofit assists with putting on the game. They contact recruiters to have them view the game and to assist in obtaining scholarships for these students. These are students who normally, under the circumstances and without the Elite effort, would not have received any scholarships and potentially not even have gone to college. Although they are required to have SATs and a minimum grade point average (GPA) to participate in this game, these are still students who may not have had the opportunity because their high school coaches or the system itself were not pushing it enough. Elite has already given scholarships to 43 students. Had they not had this game, they would not have had this opportunity to receive a scholarship to college.

The reason we are here is unfortunately, under the current regulations, the game is an unsanctioned event by the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) simply because of their regulations. The first step in the current regulation requires National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) approval for an All-Star game before they can go to the NIAA for approval. The NCAA does not have an actual department that approves football All-Star games for the high school level. They have departments that approve basketball, baseball, and even volleyball All-Star games, but not for football All-Star games.

With that roadblock, we cannot get approval from the NIAA. The purpose of this bill is to provide additional authority to the NIAA to implement regulations and to approve an All-Star game when the NCAA or the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) is not available to approve an All-Star game such as the High School Senior Bowl.

At the Senate committee hearing and prior to that, there were concerns raised that I think we addressed and alleviated. Although these would normally go into regulations, there were issues regarding insurance, equipment, and certified coaches. Speaking from Elite's perspective, and what we hope will be implemented into the regulations, will be minimum standards that we already attain. We have insurance coverage for these students in case of injury; we have certified U.S. Air Force equipment that meets or exceeds the standards of the equipment they are already using at the high school level; we have coaches that are former National Football League (NFL) players; and we have volunteers that are assisting. With a sanctioned event, we would actually be able to utilize local coaches. We would welcome these coaches to participate, but currently they feel there is an impediment because the game is not fully sanctioned.

This bill will open up the ability to allow local coaches to get the game sanctioned, and provide a tremendous opportunity for kids to have additional exposure to college recruiters and to get into college.

Another issue we addressed was the idea that this company must be making a lot of money off of these high school students. I can tell you right now, this is nonprofit and they are running in the red. They are not making money charging \$5 for tickets to watch the games. They do not charge the students to participate in the games. It is free to them. There are no gifts given to the students because we would not want to jeopardize their eligibility. The whole purpose of the game is to provide them with this opportunity.

What we are dealing with, to clarify, is a Tier 2 student who is not going to be recruited by the top 25 Football Bowl Subdivision teams. These are Football Championship Subdivision teams that we invite to participate in the recruitment to give students this additional opportunity. The All-Star game occurs at the end of the season after the last state championship game for football.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

My only question is regarding the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association. Could you tell me more about the composition and who sits on the board of that organization? Upon reading this bill, it is the first I have seen them come up on any of the bills around this body. I do not have any experience dealing with them outside of the Legislature. I would be curious to hear more about the Nevada Association.

**Jared Kahn:**

I do not know the NIAA board extensively. Maybe someone is appearing today on their behalf, but they are comprised of coaches, superintendents, or trustees from school districts and have board meetings throughout the year.

We actually attended over a year ago to present this issue to them and to request a rule change to move this type of amendment forward. It seemed like it was not really moving.

Thank you to Senator Kihuen for his assistance in trying to get this moving forward. Every year that this goes on, additional students are lacking the opportunity to get the additional exposure. Although we have held the game for the past couple of years, we would like to be fully sanctioned.

When I indicate that it is not sanctioned, that means that currently under the NIAA regulations, students who participate in the game are participating in an unsanctioned event, and are then banned from participating in a sport the next season. What this bill would do is provide them with not only the ability to play in this game and have it sanctioned, but also would prevent that student from being banned from playing the next season's sport.

Again, I hope my answer to your question is sufficient, and I am sorry I do not know the total composition of the board.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

That is not an issue. I was just looking through *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) Chapter 386 that deals with the Association and did not see anything on membership. Maybe we could ask one of our districts to come up in neutral and talk about it. However, the way I read it, it is not provided for how that is done. It must be an agreement between the school districts and other members.

Are there further questions from our Committee?

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

I am assuming we are trying to legitimize this particular activity. I was reading a letter a member of the NIAA submitted on the Senate side, and it stated that S.B. 125 (R1) will eliminate the NIAA's ability to sanction and authorize All-Star events and various individuals or entities would have carte blanche access to Nevada's student athletes. That seems to be the opposite of what you are saying. You are saying that we want it to be sanctioned, right? This is a letter from the executive board ([Exhibit H](#)). Did you see that letter?

**Jared Kahn:**

We did see that letter subsequent to it being submitted to the Senate Committee on Education. We were taken aback by it to tell you the truth. Again, what we are trying to do is provide them with additional authority. That is how this bill reads. Even the current version of the amendment that was worked up between myself, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), and counsel for the NIAA, explicitly states that the NIAA is given authority to implement regulations to approve All-Star games. Certainly, we are not fond of allowing just any entity to come in and do an All-Star game, because there should be regulation. Just as we are attaining a minimum standard that we believe should be at least a baseline for what every entity should attain with the level of insurance, and equipment, we do not believe it should allow just anybody to come in. We believe the NIAA should still have authority. Our reading and the

LCB reading and drafting of the bill does give them additional authority to implement regulations where the NIAA is in control.

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

Now I am confused. You want us to ignore the letter that came from the executive director? Does it have any validity? He says it is in conflict. It says "carte blanche access." It sounds like you are speaking in support of this Association, yet this Association sent a letter that is completely contradictory to what you are asking for.

**Jared Kahn:**

I am going to read from the proposed language in the bill. It says "The rules and regulations adopted by the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association pursuant to NRS 386.430 must provide criteria to be used by the Association when determining whether to approve or disapprove . . . ." It then goes into subsections 1 and 2 talking about All-Star games and when there is not an organization such as NCAA to approve it.

The letter that was submitted by NIAA previously dealt with language in the Senate bill where we said that the bill should mandate NIAA approval of applications essentially for an All-Star game; whereas here, we cleaned it up to say they should implement regulations to allow for approval of All-Star games. I am not sure if the NIAA has submitted subsequent letters since the Senate Committee's hearing, where we also went through a work session and put forth an amendment. Again, Assemblywoman Neal, I cannot speak to the NIAA. However, I can see what the bill says and I am going off of the language of the bill that is giving them the authority.

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

For this Committee, later on, it would be great if you could get a letter from the NIAA. If the word changed from "shall" to "must," and it clearly says "must" provide criteria, it would be helpful to get another letter, at least addressing the board which you are attempting to regulate through this legislation, that they are okay with "must" versus "shall."

**Jared Kahn:**

I appreciate your concerns and we will put in an earnest effort to work with them. I believe when we were working with Senator Ford from the Senate Committee on Education, NIAA had a very strong presence in working through the amendment and they actually suggested this language for the amendment that the LCB put together, which we then approved. I am hoping I can get this letter for the Committee, but as far as I know, this is the language they had proposed as part of the amendment language.

**Assemblyman Munford:**

Why is the NIAA opposed to this All-Star game? Why would they not see the benefit in what opportunities it makes available for young men to get scholarships and have an opportunity to gain an education? I cannot see why the NIAA would have any objections. Could you tell me why?

**Jared Kahn:**

I will give a 30-second background, then tell you exactly what transpired when we met with NIAA. In 2007, Mr. Eddie Bonine, executive director of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, provided a catalyst to Elite going forward with this game. He actually suggested this game would be great and maybe he could get an approval for it. He ran into a roadblock and then said he could not do an exception. The years progressed, the game began being put together, we ended up holding the game, and then went to the NIAA board over a year ago. At that board meeting, there was constant reassurance they supported the All-Star games. They just felt the regulations were strangling their ability to approve this type of game at this point, and the statute needed an amendment.

To use their words, they acted very slowly and that is why we tried to take this alternative route. They did suggest and repeatedly told us that they do support this new movement for the All-Star games, and they would hope to try to come up with regulations. That was over a year ago. Now, I think they have some concerns about how they can actually implement these regulations and the minimum standards for them. We are here to try to help them with that since we are putting on these All-Star games. We are here to work with them to show them what the minimum standards are that we think should be met by any organization, let alone ourselves, that would like to put on an All-Star game for high school students.

**Assemblyman Munford:**

I can appreciate you trying to get something back where it legitimatizes it and makes it legal and certified. That is what you need more than anything. Am I right?

**Jared Kahn:**

The purpose of our game is to get legitimized and sanctioned as you mentioned, but also to provide these kids with an opportunity to get exposure for these college recruiters. College recruiters are looking in that December period when the game is held. That is our position on why we want to get this sanctioned and legitimized.

**Assemblywoman Diaz:**

What is the success rate of these All-Star games? When you recruit the high school students who participate, how many of them actually get recruited with scholarships to attend college?

**Jared Kahn:**

In two years, we had 43 students successfully receive scholarships to college. That is with an unsanctioned event where some students still chose to play, obviously, because they still desired that additional exposure and what Elite would provide to them in helping them get into college. We believe that even with an unsanctioned event, to have 43 students in two years get scholarships is a tremendous success considering the number of students in Nevada that do not receive football scholarships. It is a very low number. It is unfortunate and why we are trying to get this game going. We believe if it is fully sanctioned, that 43 number could grow exponentially over the next couple of years.

**Senator Kihuen:**

Those are 43 students who would not have otherwise obtained a scholarship. Most of the students who get recruited nowadays are from some of the more prominent high schools in the affluent parts of town. Many of these kids that participate in the All-Star game are kids who come from underprivileged communities who, if they do not get scholarships, may not otherwise get an opportunity to go to school.

That is why I decided to take on this bill. I went to Rancho High School in not the best part of town. It was an area where not many scouts came out to recruit you to play college ball. I put myself in the same situation as those students. Had I not had a parent who went to college and pushed me to go to school, I probably would not have gone to college. If not for this scholarship, a lot of students would not have the opportunity or the money to go to school.

Putting all of the political stuff aside, at the end of the day, the bill is about the students and affording them at least one additional opportunity to be able to go to school.

Forty-three students is the number that have gone on to get scholarships. Some of them are now educated and may be teaching and doing good things with their lives. They may not have had the opportunity to go to college otherwise and could be out there doing who knows what on the streets.

I know we have Mr. Wade White who is one of the cofounders of this organization. In the Senate he gave some very impactful words and background why this piece of legislation was brought forth.

**Wade White Jr., President/Chief Executive Officer, Elite Sports Group:**

I am a former substitute teacher and coach in the Clark County School District (CCSD). I would like to say a few words about this High School Senior Bowl. I would like to thank God, this great Committee, and the City of Las Vegas for giving us this opportunity to assist student athletes and maximize their opportunity for scholarships in Las Vegas, Nevada. [Read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit I](#)).]

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

How many other states do these All-Star games? In looking at the NIAA website, I see the Legislative Commission is the policy-making body. There are the 17 superintendents, and then there is a board of control which is made up of different principals and school district members. Do you know which body would be adopting these regulations as you envision them? I would be interested in getting the answers to those two questions.

**Jared Kahn:**

I cannot tell you the exact number of states that are putting on this type of All-Star game, but I know because NCAA does not have a football department to approve these things, there are no sanctioned football All-Star games. However, we have heard there are games in Texas, Atlanta, and California that are being proposed similar to this. We believe this is kind of a forefront of a movement to provide students with an opportunity. If and when Nevada implements this, other states might recognize this as a fully sanctioned event.

With regard to your second question, which level of the NIAA, whether it is the board of control or the Legislative Committee that we would be seeking to approve this, it was our understanding that it is the full board that would meet to approve the regulations as proposed by the NIAA and their council. It would be the NIAA itself which would be implementing the regulation and approving such a game.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Are you saying the staff is going to recommend to the full board? What exactly are you saying? There are two different levels of boards that I see. One is the Legislative Commission, which seems to be vested with the supreme authority of the organization which is made up of the 17 superintendents throughout the state. Then there is also the board of control which is a bit more varied. I am trying to figure this out so we know who is actually going to be accountable to create these regulations as you are proposing them.



**Jared Kahn:**

As far as our understanding, and I am hoping NIAA has potentially brought a representative to speak and maybe answer the question more directly, we would like the NIAA Board of Control, the Legislative Commission, or whatever structure is necessary, to approve these regulations. However, we certainly do not want just staff. We want their board to fully vote on these regulations and to fully debate what is being proposed so the safest regulations are implemented and the board then approves them.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

I did look at the Senate amendment and I can see they were trying to make it so they have the approval whether or not to do an All-Star game versus having the statute being construed as telling them they have to do it.

The way I read the bill now is that we are saying they have to come up with criteria, but do not necessarily have to approve or disapprove. What I would ask of Senator Kihuen and Mr. Kahn is to get us something more about the implementation. I do not think many of us are familiar with how this Association works. That will put the Committee members in a good place.

**Senator Kihuen:**

I do not know if we have a representative from the NIAA here.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

The reason I did not call them up is that I do not have them signed in. Certainly, if there is a representative from the NIAA listening somewhere else in the building, or in Las Vegas, please come forward.

**Senator Kihuen:**

In the Senate hearings, they also chose not to attend. They have plenty of employees that can attend the hearings and speak on their behalf. I find it very disrespectful that they would not take the time to come here and present their case. This happened in the Senate. I know several of the Senators were very disappointed.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

I do not necessarily take that as a bad thing. I do not see any testimony they have submitted in opposition. It does not look like they are trying to oppose the bill. However, we do need to have some record so the Committee members know exactly how this would go to put them in a comfortable place. When we get into youth sports we want to make sure we are not forgetting about academics as well. Like Ms. Diaz and yourself, we certainly want to see as many students going to college as possible.

Are there any further questions from the Committee? [There were none.]  
Is there anyone in Carson City or in Las Vegas in support of S.B. 125 (R1)?  
[There was no one.] Is there anyone in opposition? [There was no one.]  
Is there anyone wishing to go on the record as neutral?

**Senator Kihuen:**

I just want to say thank you once again to you and your hard-working Committee for hearing this bill. It is not one of the most exciting bills of the session, but it is very important to many young people. At the end of the day, we are here to help students go to college. This particular sporting event can help. We will make sure to get you that information.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

If you could please submit that to Mr. Butterworth, our policy analyst, he can get it out to our Committee members. We certainly do share your goals of trying to get more students to college. We will close the hearing on S.B. 125 (R1). We will open for public comment.

**Omar Carrillo, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada:**

We want to thank you for giving us a few minutes to introduce ourselves and a program we are proud to participate in. I am currently one of three managers of our Student Ambassadors. I oversee the Positive Behavior Store which includes taking inventory, creating our weekly order form and PowerPoint, and managing the ambassadors filling the orders. [Read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit J](#)).]

**Laree Murillo, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada:**

I am the manager in charge of scheduling. The Lincoln Park Student Ambassadors work as breakfast aides in the kindergarten class, making the daily announcements and running the student store. We are also available to do work for teachers upon request. [Read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit J](#)).]

**Alexzandria Mastin, Student, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada:**

I am the manager responsible for checks and balances. We are expected to balance our books weekly just like a real business. To date, the Lincoln Park Student Ambassadors have performed 586 hours of volunteer service to our school. We come to school early and give up our lunch and afternoon recesses. We have enjoyed our time here learning about your business. Thank you for this opportunity. [Read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit J](#)).]

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Thank you very much. That was a great job. We still get a little nervous when we go up to speak every once in a while. You should be commended for that presentation.

**Assemblywoman Neal:**

Which one of you raised your hand saying you wanted to be a teacher?

**Laree Murillo:**

We all raised our hands.

**Assemblyman Stewart:**

Did I hear you say you gave up recess to do this? Every day?

**Alexzandria Mastin:**

Not every day. We have recess, but we take time off of recess sometimes. We have a schedule and come in when we are scheduled.

**Assemblyman Stewart:**

I commend you because recess was my favorite subject.

**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

Mr. Stewart, I think recess is still your favorite time of day.

**Assemblywoman Diaz:**

I wanted to recognize all of your hard work and your efforts. They are going to pay off. I want you to also leave us with some insights. You are the students in schools right now, so do you have any words of advice for us?

**Omar Carrillo:**

I think you should recommend the student ambassador program to all of the schools in Nevada because it is a really good program. It helps students learn responsibility.

**Laree Murillo:**

I would like to add to what Omar said. We should have it in different schools because it shows us how governments work and how we should control our businesses.

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**Chairman Elliot Anderson:**

School districts, do you hear that? Are there any further comments? Seeing none, thank you very much. We enjoyed having you.

We will close the Assembly Committee on Education. The meeting is adjourned [at 4:37 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Sharon McCallen  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson, Chairman

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBITS**

**Committee Name:** Committee on Education

**Date:** April 24, 2013

**Time of Meeting:** 3:30 p.m.

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Witness / Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
S.B. 163	C	Senator Barbara Cegavske	Testimony
S.B. 163	D	Senator Barbara Cegavske	Handout, "The New Civics"
S.B. 163	E	Brian Daw, Clark County School District	Testimony
S.B. 125 (R1)	F	Senator Ruben Kihuen	Testimony
S.B. 125 (R1)	G	Jared Kahn, rep. Elite Sports Group	Inaugural 2011 ELITE High School Senior Bowl Signees
S.B. 125 (R1)	H	Assemblywoman Dina Neal	NIAA Letter
S.B. 125 (R1)	I	Wade White Jr., Pres./CEO, Elite Sports Group	Testimony
	J	Omar Carrillo, Laree Murillo, Alexzandria Mastin, Students, Lincoln Park Elementary School, Sparks, Nevada	Testimony