

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Seventy-Seventh Session
May 15, 2013**

The Senate Committee on Education was called to order by Chair Joyce Woodhouse at 2:41 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 2013, in Room 2149 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair
Senator Aaron D. Ford, Vice Chair
Senator Ruben J. Kihuen
Senator Barbara K. Cegavske
Senator Donald G. Gustavson

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Lucy Flores, Assembly District No. 28

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pepper Sturm, Policy Analyst
Asher Killian, Counsel
Sara Weaver, Committee Secretary

Chair Woodhouse:

This is a work session. We will address Assembly Bill (A.B.) 288.

ASSEMBLY BILL 288 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing graduation from high school. (BDR 34-524)

Pepper Sturm (Policy Analyst):

The Committee has received the work session document ([Exhibit C](#)) for A.B. 288. I will read from [Exhibit C](#).

There are three proposed amendments to A.B. 288.

The Committee has received mock-up Proposed Amendment 8711 submitted by Assemblywoman Lucy Flores. This proposed amendment deletes specific statutory references to the General Education Development (GED) high school equivalency testing, and it substitutes wording to describe an assessment that enables a person who has not graduated from high school to demonstrate an education level that is an acceptable substitute for completing a high school education.

Proposed amendments 2 and 3 of [Exhibit C](#) were submitted by Ray Bacon of the Nevada Manufacturers Association. Amendment 2 proposes to offer pupils who have not done well on the ACT or SAT the option to take a career-readiness test such as the National Career Readiness Certificate. Amendment 3 proposes to expand the end-of-course exams to additional courses included in the State's core academic subjects specified in *Nevada Revised Statute* 389.018.

Because there is a potential impact of adopting proposed amendments 2 and 3, the Committee may consider sending a letter to the State Board of Education (SBE) requesting they take these proposals under consideration as they carry out the provisions of the bill in the event the bill is enacted and signed into law.

Chair Woodhouse:

I suggest sending a letter to the SBE and the Superintendent of Public Instruction requesting that proposed amendments 2 and 3 be considered rather than including them in the bill.

Senator Cegavske:

Proposed Amendment 8711 was discussed by the Committee. The Committee accepted this proposed amendment.

Assemblywoman Lucy Flores (Assembly District No. 28):

I support sending a letter to the SBE and the Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding proposed amendments 2 and 3. I do not believe it is appropriate to include these in statute.

Chair Woodhouse:

We want to maintain the integrity of the bill. We can indicate in the letter to the SBE and the Superintendent of Public Education that proposed amendments 2 and 3 were brought up by Mr. Bacon.

SENATOR KIHUEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 288.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Senator Cegavske:

The bill and the recommendations that came forward need serious consideration by the SBE and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Proposed amendments 2 and 3 are important, and we want to ensure they are addressed. However, I do not believe they should be included in the bill.

Senator Ford:

I believe we should draft a letter based on our discussion today of proposed amendments 2 and 3. The letter should be sent to the SBE and the Superintendent.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO DRAFT A LETTER TO THE STATE BOARD
OF EDUCATION AND TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION PERTAINING TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS 2 AND 3 OF
[EXHIBIT C.](#)

SENATOR KIHUEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Woodhouse:

The meeting is adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sara Weaver,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair

DATE: _____

<u>EXHIBITS</u>				
Bill	Exhibit		Witness / Agency	Description
	A	1		Agenda
	B	1		Attendance Roster
A.B. 288	C	43	Pepper Sturm	Work Session Document