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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 120-ASSEMBLYMEN WHEELER, ELLISON, JONES, OSCARSON; DICKMAN, DOOLING, MOORE AND O'NEILL

FEBRUARY 6, 2015

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Clarifies rights of public school pupils regarding the free exercise of religion and freedom of expression. (BDR 34-520)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; clarifying the rights of pupils at public schools regarding the free exercise of religion and freedom of expression; requiring the governing body of each public school to adopt a policy providing a grievance process for pupils claiming that those rights have been violated; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 2 of this bill clarifies that pupils at public schools are entitled to express themselves in a manner consistent with the rights guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, provided that such expression does not disrupt instruction at a public school, is not used to bully or intimidate any person and is not organized, broadcast or endorsed by the public school. Section 2 also requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school and university school for profoundly gifted pupils to adopt a grievance policy prescribing procedures for the resolution of a complaint that the rights described in section 2 have been violated.

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

Section 1. (Deleted by amendment.)



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- **Sec. 2.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. Each pupil of a public school, including, without limitation, each pupil of a university school for profoundly gifted pupils, is entitled to express himself or herself in a manner consistent with the rights guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 2. Any expression described in subsection 1 must not be disruptive of instruction at a public school, including, without limitation, a university school for profoundly gifted pupils, must not be used to bully or intimidate any person and must not be organized, broadcast or endorsed by a public school, including, without limitation, a university school for profoundly gifted pupils.
- 3. The board of trustees of each school district, the governing body of each charter school and the governing body of each university school for profoundly gifted pupils must adopt a policy prescribing procedures for the resolution of a complaint by a pupil of the school district, charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils that the rights of the pupil described in subsection I have been violated. The policy required by this subsection may be part of a comprehensive discrimination grievance policy of the school district, charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils or may be a separate policy.
 - Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)
 - **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.





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