

SENATE BILL NO. 236—SENATORS WOODHOUSE, FORD, PARKS,
DENIS, ATKINSON; KIHUEN, MANENDO AND SPEARMAN

MARCH 9, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN ELLIOT ANDERSON,
THOMPSON; JOINER AND STEWART

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the Advisory Council
on Science, Technology, Engineering and
Mathematics. (BDR 34-655)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included
in Executive Budget.

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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 relating to the
Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering
and Mathematics; requiring the Advisory Council to
establish certain events to recognize exemplary
achievement or performance by pupils and schools in this
State in the fields of science, technology, engineering and
mathematics; making an appropriation; and providing
other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 Existing law establishes the Advisory Council on Science, Technology,
2 Engineering and Mathematics and prescribes the duties of the Council, which
3 include developing plans to identify and recognize certain pupils and schools in this
4 State who demonstrate exemplary achievement or performance in the fields of
5 science, technology, engineering and mathematics. (NRS 385.700 and 385.705)
6 **Section 1** of this bill requires the Council to meet at least 6 times each year, with 2
7 of the meetings to be held in person. Any other meeting may be held by
8 videoconference. **Section 2** of this bill requires the Council to establish events to
9 recognize pupils who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science,
10 technology, engineering and mathematics. The events will be hosted by the
11 University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for pupils from southern Nevada and the
12 University of Nevada, Reno, for pupils from northern Nevada. **Section 2** also



requires the Council to establish a statewide event in Carson City to recognize the 15 schools that demonstrate exemplary performance in such fields. **Section 3** of this bill makes an appropriation from the State General Fund to the Council for the purpose of holding the statewide event.

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

Section 1. NRS 385.700 is hereby amended to read as follows:
385.700 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology,
Engineering and Mathematics is hereby created within the
Department of Education. The Council consists of:

(a) The following ex officio members:

(1) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her
designee;

(2) The Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher
Education or his or her designee;

(3) The Executive Director of the Office of Economic
Development or his or her designee; and

(4) The Director of the Department of Employment, Training
and Rehabilitation or his or her designee;

(b) Three members appointed by the Governor pursuant to
subsection 2;

(c) Four members appointed by the Majority Leader of the
Senate pursuant to subsections 2 and 3;

(d) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly
pursuant to subsections 2 and 3;

(e) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate
pursuant to subsection 4; and

(f) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
Assembly pursuant to subsection 4.

2. The Governor, Majority Leader of the Senate and Speaker of
the Assembly shall each appoint:

(a) One member who is a classroom teacher in the field of
science, technology, engineering or mathematics;

(b) One member who is an administrator of a public school or
school district in this State with an education program relating to the
fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and

(c) One member who represents businesses that employ persons
in careers which are enhanced by education in science, technology,
engineering and mathematics, including, without limitation, careers
relating to manufacturing, information technology, aerospace
engineering, health sciences and mining.



3. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint one additional member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.

4. The Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall each appoint one member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.

5. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Council must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.

6. The Council shall hold its first regular meeting as soon as practicable on or after July 1, 2013, at the call of the Governor. At the first regular meeting of the Council, the members of the Council shall elect a Chair by majority vote.

7. The Council shall meet ~~not more than four~~ *at least six* times each year at the call of the Chair. *Two meetings of the Council must be held in person and any other meeting may be held by videoconference.*

8. A majority of the members of the Council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of those members present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the Council.

9. The Chair may appoint such subcommittees of the Council as the Chair determines necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

10. The members of the Council serve without compensation.

Sec. 2. NRS 385.705 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.705 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics created by NRS 385.700 shall:

(a) Develop a strategic plan for the development of educational resources in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to serve as a foundation for workforce development, college preparedness and economic development in this State;

(b) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to pupils in this State who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(c) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to not more than 15 schools in this State that demonstrate exemplary performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(d) Conduct a survey of education programs and proposed programs relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in this State and in other states to identify recommendations for the implementation of such programs by public schools in this State and report the information gathered by the survey to the State Board of Education;



(e) Apply for grants on behalf of the State of Nevada relating to the development and expansion of education programs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(f) Identify a nonprofit corporation to assist in the implementation of the plans developed pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); and

(g) Prepare a written report which includes, without limitation, recommendations based on the survey conducted pursuant to paragraph (d) and any other recommendations concerning the instruction and curriculum in courses of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in public schools in this State and, on or before January 31 of each odd-numbered year, submit a copy of the report to the State Board of Education, the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature.

2. *In accordance with the plans developed pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 1, the Council shall establish:*

(a) An event in southern Nevada and an event in northern Nevada to recognize pupils in this State who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The events must be held at:

(1) The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, to recognize pupils from southern Nevada; and

(2) The University of Nevada, Reno, to recognize pupils from northern Nevada.

(b) A statewide event to be held in Carson City to recognize not more than 15 schools in this State that have demonstrated exemplary performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

3. The Council or a subcommittee of the Council may seek the input, advice and assistance of persons and organizations that have knowledge, interest or expertise relevant to the duties of the Council.

~~13.1~~ 4. The State Board of Education shall consider the plans developed by the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 1 and the written report submitted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1 and adopt such regulations as the State Board deems necessary to carry out the recommendations in the written report.

Sec. 3. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics created by NRS 385.700 for the purpose of holding a statewide event to recognize the 15 schools in



1 this State that demonstrate exemplary performance in science,
2 technology, engineering and mathematics:

3 For the Fiscal Year 2015-2016..... \$5,000

4 For the Fiscal Year 2016-2017..... \$5,000

5 2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1
6 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be
7 committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal
8 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
9 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
10 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
11 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
12 September 16, 2016, and September 15, 2017, respectively, by
13 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
14 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and
15 must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
16 September 16, 2016, and September 15, 2017, respectively.

17 **Sec. 4.** 1. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015; and

18 2. Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire by limitation on June 30,
19 2017.

