

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

**Seventy-Eighth Session
May 20, 2015**

The Committee on Education was called to order by Chair Melissa Woodbury at 3:12 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, in Room 3142 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4406 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 www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/78th2015. In addition, copies of the audio or video of the meeting may be purchased, for personal use only, through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775-684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury, Chair
Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson
Assemblyman Derek Armstrong
Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Assemblywoman Victoria A. Dooling
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Assemblyman Edgar Flores
Assemblyman David M. Gardner
Assemblyman Pat Hickey
Assemblywoman Amber Joiner
Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford
Assemblywoman Shelly M. Shelton
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None



GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst
Kristin Rossiter, Committee Policy Analyst
Karly O'Krent, Committee Counsel
Joan Waldock, Committee Secretary
Trinity Thom, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

Chair Woodbury:

[Roll was called.] We have one bill in work session today. Ms. Rossiter will walk us through that.

Senate Bill 474 (2nd Reprint): Makes various changes concerning the professional development of teachers, school administrators and other educational personnel. (BDR 34-1183)

Kristin Rossiter, Committee Policy Analyst:

Senate Bill 474 (2nd Reprint) is on our work session today. This was heard by the Committee yesterday and was presented by Ms. Dena Durish. Senate Bill 474 (R2) creates the Great Teaching and Leading Fund, in the State General Fund, to be administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction ([Exhibit C](#)). The Superintendent must annually prescribe program priorities for which grants may be awarded by the State Board of Education from the Fund, and certain public and private organizations are authorized to submit a grant application response to the stated priorities. No more than 25 percent may be awarded to any single entity in a fiscal year. Grants must be used to provide: professional development, preparation, and peer assistance and review for teachers, administrators, and other licensed education personnel; leadership training and development; and programs to recruit, select, and retain effective teachers and principals.

This bill also requires the Superintendent, to the extent funding is available, to contract for an independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the grants made from the Fund. The governing body of a school district or charter school

is required to ensure teachers and educators have access to high-quality, ongoing professional development.

In addition, the measure creates the Advisory Task Force on Educator Professional Development to study certain issues relating to the professional development of educational personnel. The Task Force is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, the Legislative Committee on Education, and the 2017 Legislative Session.

A mock-up follows the bill page, which contains the amendments which were discussed in conceptual form as follows: to revise the cap on the receipt of funds by a grantee to award no more than 20 percent to a single entity in a fiscal year (versus 25 percent), and limit the period of the grant application up to three years versus five years; report the findings of the independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the grant funds to the Legislative Committee on Education and the regular session of the Legislature; to revise section 1.7 (ensuring school districts and charter schools provide high-quality, STEM-related professional development), to also include training for teachers of English language learner (ELL) pupils that increase those needed skill levels in ELL-related standards and also to include training to enhance cultural competency to meet the needs of the pupils in the school who are at risk, pupils with disabilities, those who are limited English proficient, and gifted and talented pupils; and to revise section 1.5 to provide for transparency concerning reporting amounts, and sources of grants of money to the Fund, and provide a list of these grants to the Legislature.

Chair Woodbury:

I will accept a motion to amend and do pass.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIAZ MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
SENATE BILL 474 (2ND REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYMAN STEWART SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Woodbury:

Is there any discussion? Assemblywoman Diaz or Ms. O'Krent, will you explain the additional changes we are going to make to section 1.7, which I think is redundant?

Karly O'Krent, Committee Counsel:

The revision to section 1.7 will be that in paragraph (b) of subsection 3, the words, "for pupils who are limited English proficient" will be taken out, so as to

allow them to use these funds for English language development and literacy for all pupils.

Chair Woodbury:

Is there any further discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYWOMAN SHELTON VOTED
NO. ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARDS WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Woodbury:

Assemblywoman Diaz will make the floor statement.

We will have a Committee meeting tomorrow at the call of the Chair, probably after floor session. I will try to get a different room because I know that the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections is using this room at 4 p.m. We will be hearing two bills and will have a work session on Senate Bill 432 (2nd Reprint).

Is anyone here for public comment? [There was no one.] We are adjourned [at 3:17 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Joan Waldock
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Committee Name: Assembly Committee on Education

Date: May 20, 2015

Time of Meeting: 3:12 p.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
S.B. 474 (R2)	C	Kristin Rossiter, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document