

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

**Seventy-Eighth Session
April 10, 2015**

The Committee on Education was called to order by Chair Melissa Woodbury at 2:24 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2015, in Room 3142 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4404B 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
Sharon McCallen, Committee Secretary
Joan Waldock, Committee Secretary
Trinity Thom, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

Chair Woodbury:

[Roll was taken. Committee protocol and rules were explained.] We have a work session today.

[Assembly Bill 378](#): Makes various changes relating to education. (BDR 34-807)

H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst:

Assembly Bill 378 was sponsored by Assemblywomen Dooling and Shelton and was heard in this Committee on April 8, 2015. Originally A.B. 378 concerned the Class-Size Reduction Program. I will not read the summary on the bill page because the amendment takes all of that out ([Exhibit C](#)).

If you will turn to the proposed amendment, you will see that it deletes sections 1 through 18 of the bill—which is everything but the effective date—and replaces it with the provision *Nevada Revised Statutes* 386.570. That particular change in language allows charter schools to receive its proportionate share on a per-pupil basis of any other money provided for other public schools from federal, state, or local sources. That is the amendment.

ASSEMBLYMAN HICKEY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 378.

ASSEMBLYMAN GARDNER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Assemblywoman Diaz:

I need clarification of what is being kept in the bill and what is not. I am reading the amendment, but I am not sure. If we can elaborate on what is being removed and what is being kept, please.

H. Pepper Sturm:

The bill itself consists of 19 sections. All of the sections 1 through 18 inclusive are deleted. Section 19 is the effective date of the bill, which is July 1, 2015. That is the only piece of the bill that remains.

The proposed amendment behind the bill page is the replacement. The original bill has, in effect, been replaced with that change, and the effective date is July 1, 2015.

Assemblywoman Diaz:

Now it is clear.

Assemblyman Edwards:

The only thing we are voting on is the amendment on the second page?

Chair Woodbury:

Yes. The motion was made by Assemblyman Hickey to pass the amendment, which would delete the original bill except for the effective date.

Assemblywoman Diaz:

Is this amendment basically saying that any money that would normally be given to a school for a special education student, English language learner student, and special populations would go directly to the charter schools? How does that process work?

Karly O'Krent, Committee Counsel:

The amendment will provide that every pupil that is enrolled in a charter school receives the same per-pupil allocation that they would otherwise be provided. That is correct.

Assemblywoman Diaz:

Inclusive of weights depending on the student?

Karly O'Krent, Committee Counsel:

That is correct.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Woodbury:

Assemblywoman Dooling will take the floor statement.

Assembly Bill 394: Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-900)

H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst:

Assembly Bill 394 is sponsored by Assemblymen Gardner, Flores, Jones, Silberkraus, and Hickey and was heard in this Committee on March 30, 2015. There is a fiscal note for this bill ([Exhibit D](#)).

The amendment which follows the bill page takes the place of all of the bill as a whole. There are a few provisions that are referenced in the conceptual amendment. If it suits the Chair, I will go through the proposed amendment.

Chair Woodbury:

Are amendments 1 through 7 in the conceptual amendment?

H. Pepper Sturm:

That is correct. They are the seven major pieces of that conceptual amendment. They correspond to the bullet points.

First, the conceptual amendment creates a nine-member committee to study creating at least five local school precincts within the Clark County School District before the 2017-2018 school year. [Read from Proposed Conceptual Amendment ([Exhibit D](#)).]

Next, the plan must address all of the items listed in subsection 2 of section 8. That is the one part of the measure that remains part of the bill. [Continued to read from ([Exhibit D](#)).]

Again, this is a summary. The full conceptual amendment follows the bill page.

Assemblyman Stewart:

What about the consolidation of the rural districts? Is that still in the bill or the amendment somewhere?

Assemblyman Gardner:

Yes, it is.

Assemblyman Stewart:

I am confused on the date of implementation. It seems quick with all of the things they have to do.

Karly O'Krent:

I do not believe the provisions you are referring to, Mr. Stewart, are still in the bill.

Assemblyman Stewart:

What is the date this will take effect?

Assemblyman Gardner:

The bill will go into effect once it has been signed by Governor Sandoval. By July 1, 2015, we will set up the committee. By October 1, 2016, a plan will have to have been completed.

Assemblyman Stewart:

Then the implementation of the plan will begin by the 2017-2018 school year?

Assemblyman Munford:

I thought I saw in here, that before you actually implement the plan, you would have some type of town hall meetings at the various precincts to give the residents an opportunity to have a voice. They definitely need a voice on this. I know my constituents would not be ready for this yet. They need to have some input.

Assemblyman Gardner:

Originally it was four town hall meetings, but it is now six. They will be held in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, unincorporated Clark County, Mesquite, and Boulder City. We are basically trying to hit everywhere to have these open town hall meetings in case they have any questions. Those concerns and questions will then go back to the Legislative Commission so they can finalize the plan with those comments and concerns taken into account.

Chair Woodbury:

I will accept a motion to amend and do pass with Assemblyman Gardner's conceptual amendment.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIAZ MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 394.

ASSEMBLYMAN HICKEY SECONDED THE MOTION.

Assemblywoman Swank:

I want to thank Assemblyman Gardner on behalf of Assemblywoman Diaz and myself for working together on the amendments for A.B. 394.

Assemblyman Armstrong:

I would like to put on the record that I would like to reserve my right to change my vote on the floor only because this changes the bill quite a bit. I was on board giving the enabling language to the locals to conduct the studies to see if it worked for them individually. I need more time to think about this amendment.

Assemblyman Stewart:

Mr. Armstrong could not have said it better for me. Ditto.

Assemblyman Munford:

Ditto.

Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson:

For different reasons, I ditto. I did not like the original bill, but I am looking forward to seeing the amendment, so I will reserve my right to change my vote on the floor.

Assemblyman Flores:

Ditto.

Assemblyman Edwards:

Ditto.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Woodbury:

Assemblyman Gardner will take the floor statement.

Assembly Bill 395: Revises provisions relating to the State Public Charter School Authority. (BDR 34-902)

H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst:

The final bill in our work session document today is Assembly Bill 395 and was sponsored by Assemblymen Gardner, Fiore, and Jones. It was heard in this Committee on March 23, 2015. There is a fiscal note for this bill ([Exhibit E](#)).

There are a number of amendments that make the summary moot. If it is the Chair's pleasure, I will go over what is deleted and what is retained as described in my summary of Mr. Gardner's mock-up of Proposed Amendment 6124.

Chair Woodbury:

That would be great.

H. Pepper Sturm:

Mock-up 6124 deletes sections 2, 13, and 14 that exempted the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) from the State Budget Act, and makes resulting changes throughout the bill. They will remain within the State Budget Act.

It also deletes sections 2, 4, and 12 that exempted the director and staff of the Authority from the classified and unclassified service of the state. Again, this makes resulting technical changes throughout the bill. The director and the staff do remain in the classified/unclassified service.

On the next page, the major provisions that are retained in the bill are providing that the director serves at the pleasure of the SPCSA; authorizes the director to hire staff and direct them in their duties; and transfers from the Department of Education to SPCSA the regulatory authorities—specifically governing the process for submission, approval, and renewal of charter contracts under the sponsorship of the SPCSA. That can be found in sections 10 and 11. The full details are in the mock-up.

Chair Woodbury:

Do I have a motion to amend and do pass with amendments 1 through 3, which represent the mock-up?

ASSEMBLYMAN ARMSTRONG MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 395.

ASSEMBLYMAN STEWART SECONDED THE MOTION.

Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson:

As I understand it, the amendment is technically conceptual. I want to make sure that it appears we are transferring a regulatory authority to the SPCSA from the Department of Education and that the State Board of Education is okay with that.

I also want to ensure that we are not actually creating a new regulatory scope of authority, but just transferring the existing regulatory authority to the SPCSA for the schools they actually sponsor.

Assemblyman Gardner:

That is the intent of the bill. We are just transferring existing authority from the State Board of Education. I spoke to Dale A.R. Erquiaga, and he said they are all on board.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Woodbury:

Assemblyman Gardner will take the floor statement. Is there anyone here for public comment? [There was no one.]

Meeting adjourned [at 2:42 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sharon McCallen
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Committee Name: Assembly Committee on Education

Date: April 10, 2015

Time of Meeting: 2:24 p.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
A.B. 378	C	H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst	Work Session Document
A.B. 394	D	H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst	Work Session Document
A.B. 395	E	H. Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst	Work Session Document