

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Seventy-Eighth Session
May 14, 2015**

The Senate Committee on Education was called to order by Chair Becky Harris at 4:31 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in Room 2135 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 Becky Harris, Chair
Senator Scott Hammond, Vice Chair
Senator Don Gustavson
Senator Mark A. Lipparelli
Senator Joyce Woodhouse
Senator Moises (Mo) Denis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Tick Segerblom (Excused)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Todd Butterworth, Policy Analyst
Risa Lang, Counsel
Beth Ann Reykers, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Stevens, Clark County School District

Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on Assembly Bill (A.B.) 121.

ASSEMBLY BILL 121 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing the discipline of pupils. (BDR 34-173)

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Todd Butterworth (Policy Analyst):

I will now read from the work session document ([Exhibit C](#)).

Senator Woodhouse:

I will support this bill in Committee, but reserve my right to change my vote when the bill is voted on by the whole Senate.

SENATOR HAMMOND MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 121.

SENATOR GUSTAVSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on A.B. 205.

ASSEMBLY BILL 205 (1st Reprint): Requires the Legislative Committee on Education to consider matters relating to certain mentorship programs. (BDR S-116)

Mr. Butterworth:

I will now read from the work session document ([Exhibit D](#)).

Chair Harris:

The proposed amendment may seem duplicative, but I thought the term, "education," as used in the bill was overly broad. Throughout this Session, we have heard numerous people testify about the need to focus on college and career readiness for students aged 14-18. I specifically wanted to identify that college and career readiness components are included in any mentorship program.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 205 WITH CHAIR HARRIS' CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT TO EXPLICITLY INCLUDE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS PLANNING IN MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on A.B. 206.

ASSEMBLY BILL 206 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to certain notices provided to the parent or guardian of a pupil who attends a public school. (BDR 34-740)

Mr. Butterworth:

I will now read from the work session document (Exhibit E). Proposed Amendment 7265 is included in Exhibit E.

Chair Harris:

Senate Bill (S.B.) 504 passed the Assembly yesterday. Proposed Amendment 7265 to A.B. 206 includes conforming language. This legislation will support S.B. 504.

SENATE BILL 504 (1st Reprint): Amends provisions relating to a safe and respectful learning environment in public schools. (BDR 34-1201)

SENATOR DENIS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 206 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7265.

SENATOR GUSTAVSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on A.B. 321.

ASSEMBLY BILL 321 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to school police officers. (BDR 34-925)

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Mr. Butterworth:

I will now read from the work session document ([Exhibit F](#)). Proposed Amendment 7234 is included in [Exhibit F](#).

Chair Harris:

Proposed Amendment 7234 has been prepared in consultation with the sponsor of the bill and with the stakeholders. It addresses the concerns that were raised during the hearing on A.B. 321.

During the hearing, concerns were expressed regarding the lack of communication between charter schools and local law enforcement agencies (LEA). This bill is a great start and requires charter schools to notify the LEA of the location of a charter school. Our LEA will then be able to provide protection for all Nevada's schoolchildren.

Senator Woodhouse:

I applaud the bill's sponsor and his work with the stakeholders who came together to make this bill better.

SENATOR GUSTAVSON MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 321 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7234.

SENATOR HAMMOND SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on A.B. 341.

ASSEMBLY BILL 341 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to pupils with disabilities. (BDR 34-832)

Mr. Butterworth:

I will now read from the work session document ([Exhibit G](#)). Proposed Amendment 7287 is included in [Exhibit G](#).

Chair Harris:

I spoke with Assemblyman Ohrenschall concerning the best method to integrate this program into schools. Some schools have learning strategists. In order to help address the literacy challenges we face, having a designated individual within a school who receives training will ensure children are properly assessed. This is essential to the success of this bill.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 341 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7287.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Harris:

I will now open the work session on A.B. 447.

[ASSEMBLY BILL 447](#): Revises provisions relating to the statewide performance evaluation system. (BDR 34-1120)

Mr. Butterworth:

I will now read from the work session document ([Exhibit H](#)). Proposed Amendment 6821 is included in [Exhibit H](#).

Chair Harris:

Senator Woodhouse and Senator Hammond were instrumental working with stakeholders to glean the key components necessary to begin the implementation of the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF). Proposed Amendment 6821 acknowledges the difficulties experienced with testing this year. We tried to find a meaningful balance between an appropriate way to evaluate educators and the lack of some important data. These are just a few factors considered during the conversations with stakeholders.

Senator Hammond:

Several stakeholders put a lot of time into the development of this bill and the proposed amendment. The evaluation of teacher performance is a sensitive

subject. Ensuring the proper rubric is in place was the goal of the working group. The Teachers and Leaders Council perspective was invaluable. There were a lot of people involved in the development of the amendment. I applaud their work to make this a better and more meaningful piece of legislation.

This bill with the proposed amendment will be monitored closely in the future. We have identified the obstacles; and the data is the important key. We have to get this right. I appreciate the time people spent to assist in the development of the amendment.

Senator Woodhouse:

I echo the previous comments by my colleagues. Many of us knew there were issues with the NEPF system, especially pertaining to the evaluation of probationary teachers. The amendment is a clean and direct method for implementation of the NEPF. It ensures our school professional employees are treated properly and respectfully.

Senator Denis:

I also commend the stakeholders for their work to improve A.B. 447. The implementation of the NEPF is a key concern raised by teachers.

I participated on a Nevada team that spoke with other states who stated they did not take the time to consider a number of factors regarding this process. I am pleased with the emphasis to make the NEPF workable and meaningful, even if it means slowing the full implementation of the NEPF.

I want Nevada to be the leader on this issue.

SENATOR HAMMOND MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 447 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 6821.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Craig Stevens (Clark County School District):

The Clark County School District (CCSD) "Good News Minute" sends congratulations to the 69 parents who graduated from the University of Family Learning (UFL) today. The UFL is a joint effort that provides parents with learning opportunities that will impact student achievement and family success.

The CCSD offers courses to parents and family members that align with the CCSD educational objectives. The mission of the program is to empower families by providing them with knowledge, resources and confidence to ensure family success.

This program provides free child care for parents who have younger children, so the parents can participate in this program.

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Chair Harris:

There being no further comment or business before the Committee, the meeting is adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Beth Ann Reykers,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Becky Harris, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit / # of pages		Witness / Entity	Description
	A	2		Agenda
	B	3		Attendance Roster
A.B. 121	C	1	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document
A.B. 205	D	3	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document
A.B. 206	E	5	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document with Proposed Amendment 7265
A.B. 321	F	13	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document with Proposed Amendment 7234
A.B. 341	G	16	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document with Proposed Amendment 7287
A.B. 447	H	16	Todd Butterworth	Work Session Document with Proposed Amendment 6821