

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

**Seventy-Ninth Session
May 29, 2017**

The Committee on Education was called to order by Chairman Tyrone Thompson at 6:24 p.m. on Monday, May 29, 2017, 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/79th2017.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Chairman
Assemblywoman Amber Joiner, Vice Chair
Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Assemblyman Edgar Flores
Assemblyman Ozzie Fumo
Assemblywoman Lisa Krasner
Assemblyman William McCurdy II
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
Assemblyman Keith Pickard
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank
Assemblywoman Jill Tolles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson (excused)
Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury (excused)

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Senator Heidi S. Gansert, Senate District No. 15



STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst
Karly O'Krent, Committee Counsel
Sharon McCallen, Committee Secretary
Melissa Loomis, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

Chairman Thompson:

[Roll was called. Committee protocol and rules were explained.] We are going to go right into our work session today. I will roll the three hearings that were scheduled for today—Senate Bill 66 (2nd Reprint), Senate Bill 132 (2nd Reprint), and Senate Bill 457 (1st Reprint) to the call of the Chair. At this time we will open the work session for Senate Bill 212 (1st Reprint).

Senate Bill 212 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing the welfare of pupils. (BDR 34-674)

Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:

[Read from ([Exhibit C](#)).] Senate Bill 212 (1st Reprint) expands the scope of reporting to the Safe-to-Tell Program to include certain activities that are conducted or threatened by a student who is enrolled at a public school whether or not the conduct or threat occurs on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. This bill also establishes a team at each public school to receive reports submitted to the Program.

Senate Bill 212 (1st Reprint) further establishes requirements concerning the operation of the Program's support center. The bill expands the means by which reports can be received by the Program and requires the Director of the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment to provide certain training.

Finally, this bill requires an emergency response plan for a school district or charter school—and the model plan developed by Nevada's Department of Education—to address the suicide of a teacher, student, or other member of the school community, and to include provisions related to making counseling and other services available for students and school staff after a crisis, emergency, or suicide. The emergency response plan for a private school must also cover responding to a suicide. A State or local agency that provides mental health services must be contacted to help respond to a crisis, emergency, or suicide at any school.

Senator Gansert, who sponsored the bill, has proposed one amendment, which is to remove references to electronic mail in sections 5 and 11 of the bill, which deal with operations of the support center and the Program, and replace them with references to text messaging.

Chairman Thompson:

Are there any questions from the Committee for Ms. Weldon?

Assemblywoman Miller:

Can you explain what "replace them with references to text messaging" means, and what that would look like? Is that for students to be text-messaging staff? I am not sure what that means.

Amelie Welden:

I will defer to the sponsor.

Senator Heidi S. Gansert, Senate District No. 15:

The software that they use accepts text messaging on emailing. It would be going to the support center.

Chairman Thompson:

I will entertain a motion to amend and do pass S.B. 212 (R1).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
SENATE BILL 212 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYMAN PICKARD SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion?

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN ELLIOT T. ANDERSON,
FLORES, AND WOODBURY WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Assemblywoman Joiner will take the floor statement. Next is Senate Bill 213 (2nd Reprint).

Senate Bill 213 (2nd Reprint): Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-583)

Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division:

[Read from ([Exhibit D](#)).] Senate Bill 213 (2nd Reprint) requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to order an inspection of a provider of special education upon determination of good cause. If an inspection shows that the provider is not in compliance with relevant laws or regulations, the Superintendent must take certain actions to ensure that the provider becomes compliant. The Superintendent must also take action if a provider does not comply in a timely manner with a plan of corrective action or with certain orders of a hearing officer.

This bill further requires Nevada's Department of Education to adopt regulations concerning certain notifications for parents of students with disabilities, as well as training standards for public school employees who help provide special education services.

In addition, S.B. 213 (R2) requires background checks every five years, as a condition of continued employment for all school employees and for school volunteers who are likely to have regular, unsupervised contact with students.

Finally, the bill authorizes a juvenile court to appoint an educational surrogate parent for a child with a known or suspected disability under certain circumstances. There are no amendments.

Chairman Thompson:

Are there any questions from the Committee?

Assemblywoman Krasner:

Senator Gansert, in S.B. 213 (R2), section 10, subsection 1, says that the court, under certain circumstances, may appoint an educational surrogate parent if the pupil has a known or suspected disability. When it says "suspected disability" what would be the grounds for appointing that educational surrogate parent if the disability is just suspected? Is it documented evidence? Could you explain to me?

Senator Gansert:

I am guessing that there are some disabilities that are diagnosable, and some that are not. However, if a child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP), they could be eligible for an IEP even if they were not diagnosed with a particular disability. That is what I am guessing what a suspected disability is; it is not defined specifically.

Assemblywoman Krasner:

So this language would pertain to a student who is already on an IEP—if it is suspected disability?

Senator Gansert:

This is the work to try to get an IEP for a student. Sometimes there may be children in foster care who do not have a parent or guardian regularly available who can represent them, so we were asked to add this language. They already do this through regulations, but this section is to ensure there is someone who is representing the child. When you go back through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), a federal special education law, part of it is making sure there is participation from the family. This is for cases where there is not a parent or guardian available who can help the children and to represent them in IEP discussions.

Chairman Thompson:

I will entertain a motion to do pass S.B. 213 (R2).

ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARDS MADE A MOTION TO DO PASS
SENATE BILL 213 (2ND REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIAZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion?

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN ELLIOT T. ANDERSON,
FLORES, AND WOODBURY WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Assemblywoman Tolles will take the floor statement. We will close the work session for
S.B. 213 (R2). We will open up for public comment. [There was none.]

The following bills will not be heard at this time.

**Senate Bill 66 (2nd Reprint): Revises provisions relating to work-based learning
programs. (BDR 34-254)**

**Senate Bill 132 (2nd Reprint): Revises provisions relating to public high schools.
(BDR 34-47)**

**Senate Bill 457 (1st Reprint): Provides for the award of college credit for military
education, training and occupational experience. (BDR 34-1080)**

The meeting is adjourned [at 6:34 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sharon McCallen
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Chairman

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

[Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster.

[Exhibit C](#) is the Work Session Document for [Senate Bill 212 \(1st Reprint\)](#), presented by Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit D](#) is the Work Session Document for [Senate Bill 213 \(2nd Reprint\)](#), presented by Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.