

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 219—ASSEMBLYMEN TORRES, FLORES;
ASSEFA, CARRILLO, DALY, DURAN, FUMO, GORELOW,
JAUREGUI, MARTINEZ, MCCURDY, MUNK, NGUYEN,
PETERS AND WATTS

FEBRUARY 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to education.
(BDR 34-673)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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 related to a policy of instruction to teach English to pupils who are English learners; revising eligible teaching programs for which the Teach Nevada Scholarship Program awards scholarships; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires each board of trustees of a school district to develop a policy of instruction to teach English to pupils who are English learners and sets forth the requirements for the policy. (NRS 388.407) **Section 1** of this bill revises the requirements of such a policy by requiring each school district to adopt a protocol which includes providing transportation to a pupil who is an English learner to another school if: (1) the public school in which the pupil is enrolled does not provide a program to teach English to pupils who are English learners; or (2) if certain persons determine such a program is not adequate.

Under existing law, the Teach Nevada Scholarship Program provides scholarships to students pursuing a teaching degree at a university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program that offers an eligible teaching program. Such eligible teaching programs include a program to: (1) make a student eligible to obtain a license to teach kindergarten, any grade from grades 1 through 12 or in the subject area of special education in this State; or (2) specialize in the subject area of early childhood education. (NRS 391A.580) **Section 2** of this bill revises such eligible programs by including a program which allows a student to obtain an endorsement to teach: (1) English as a second language; or (2) special education.



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

Section 1. NRS 388.407 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.407 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall develop a policy for the instruction to teach English to pupils who are English learners. The policy must be designed to provide pupils enrolled in each public school located in the school district who are English learners with instruction that enables those pupils to attain proficiency in the English language and improve their overall academic achievement and proficiency.

2. The policy developed pursuant to subsection 1 must:

(a) Provide for the identification of pupils who are English learners through the use of an appropriate assessment;

(b) Provide for the periodic reassessment of each pupil who is classified as an English learner;

(c) Be designed to eliminate any gaps in achievement, including, without limitation, in the core academic subjects and in high school graduation rates, between those pupils who are English learners and pupils who are proficient in English;

(d) Provide opportunities for the parents or legal guardians of pupils who are English learners to participate in the program; ~~and~~

(e) Provide the parents and legal guardians of pupils who are English learners with information regarding other programs that are designed to improve the language acquisition and academic achievement and proficiency of pupils who are English learners and assist those parents and legal guardians in enrolling those pupils in such programs ~~and~~; and

(f) Establish a protocol which provides transportation to attend another school for certain pupils who are English learners. Such a protocol must provide:

(I) Transportation to attend the nearest public school which provides an appropriate and adequate program of instruction to teach English to pupils who are English learners:

(I) If the pupil is enrolled in a public school which does not provide such a program at the grade level of the pupil; or

(II) Upon the request of either a pupil who is at least 18 years of age or an emancipated minor or the parent or legal guardian of a pupil if the pupil is less than 18 years of age who determines such a program is not adequate; and

(2) A process for appealing a determination made pursuant to subparagraph (II) of subparagraph (I) of whether a program of instruction to teach English to pupils who are English learners is adequate.



3. *As used in this section, "adequate" means the school in which the pupil is enrolled:*

(a) *Employs a teacher on a full-time basis to provide a program of instruction to teach pupils who are English learners; or*

(b) *Provides instruction and services specifically designed to address the first 2 years of learning English as a second language.*

Sec. 2. NRS 391A.580 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391A.580 1. A public or private university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program in this State is eligible to apply to the State Board for a grant from the Account to award scholarships to students who attend the university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program to complete a program offered by the university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program that has been approved by the State Board and which:

(a) Upon completion makes a student eligible to obtain a license to teach kindergarten, any grade from grades 1 through 12 or in the subject area of special education in this State: ~~for~~

(b) Allows a student to specialize in the subject area of early childhood education ~~for~~;

(c) *Allows a student to obtain an endorsement to teach English as a second language; or*

(d) *Allows a student to obtain an endorsement to teach special education.*

2. The State Board shall:

(a) Establish the number of Teach Nevada Scholarships that will be available each year based upon the amount of money available in the Account.

(b) Review all applications submitted pursuant to subsection 1 and award a grant of money from the Account to an approved university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program to the extent that money is available in an amount determined by the State Board. The State Board shall retain 25 percent of such an award in the Account for disbursement to a scholarship recipient who meets the requirements of subsection 4 of NRS 391A.585.

3. The State Board may prioritize the award of grants from the Account to a university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program that demonstrates the university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program will provide scholarships to a greater number of recipients who:

(a) Are veterans or the spouses of veterans;

(b) Intend to teach in public schools in this State which have the highest shortage of teachers;



(c) Have been economically disadvantaged or belong to a racial or ethnic minority group; or

(d) Will be eligible to teach in a subject area for which there is a shortage of teachers. Such a subject area may include, without limitation, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, special education or English as a second language.

4. A student may apply for a Teach Nevada Scholarship from a university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program that receives a grant from the Account only if the student attends or has been accepted to attend the university, college or other provider of an alternative licensure program to complete a program described in subsection 1. An application submitted by the student must identify the program to be completed and the date by which the student must complete the program to finish on schedule.

5. The State Board may adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 391A.550 to 391A.590, inclusive.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

