

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 343—ASSEMBLYMEN MONROE-MORENO;  
GORELOW, JAUREGUI, NEAL AND ROBERTS

MARCH 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Establishes provisions relating to mental health.  
(BDR 34-866)

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 mental health; requiring the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to provide certain training regarding the mental health of pupils; creating the Task Force on the Mental Health of Children; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to ensure that teachers and administrators have access to ongoing professional development training in various areas. (NRS 391A.370) **Section 1** of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to provide professional development training on the mental health of pupils. **Section 1** requires such training to include certain issues relating to mental health. **Section 1** further requires the number of hours of training provided to be reported to the Department of Education. **Section 1** also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to coordinate with each regional training program in this State to disseminate information and materials relating to such training.

**Sections 4-9** of this bill create the Task Force on the Mental Health of Children. **Section 7** of this bill establishes the membership of the Task Force. **Section 9** of this bill requires the Task Force to develop a plan for improving the provision of mental health services for children in this State and revising and amending such a plan as necessary. **Section 9** also requires the Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of its findings and recommendations.

**Section 2** of this bill makes a conforming change.



\* A B 3 4 3 \*

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 391A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. Every 2 years, the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall provide at least 8 hours of professional development training on the mental health of pupils to the teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators employed by the school district or charter school. The board of trustees and the governing body shall encourage support staff to participate in such professional development training.*

*2. Based on the annual needs assessment for pupils conducted pursuant to NRS 388.885, the professional development training provided pursuant to subsection 1 must include:*

*(a) At least 2 hours of professional development training that includes, without limitation, information on:*

*(1) Trauma;*

*(2) Social and emotional learning, including, without limitation, resiliency;*

*(3) Suicide prevention; and*

*(4) Bullying and cyber-bullying; and*

*(b) At least 6 hours of professional development training that includes, without limitation, information on:*

*(1) The prevalence of mental health issues and impact of mental health and wellness on the family structure and education of a pupil and the interactions of a pupil with juvenile services, law enforcement personnel and health care and treatment providers;*

*(2) The mental health symptoms, social stigmas and risks associated with depression, anxiety, stress and substance abuse; and*

*(3) Sources to refer a pupil to appropriate services and evidence-based strategies for appropriate interventions.*

*3. The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall report to the Department the number of hours of professional development training provided pursuant to this section.*

*4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall coordinate with each regional training program to disseminate information and materials regarding the professional development training provided pursuant to this section and provide notice of opportunities for such professional development training to the*



*board of trustees of each school district, the governing body of each charter school and each private school in this State.*

*5. As used in this section:*

*(a) "Bullying" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.122.*

*(b) "Cyber-bullying" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.123.*

*(c) "Regional training program" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 391A.105.*

**Sec. 2.** NRS 391A.345 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391A.345 As used in NRS 391A.345 to 391A.385, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, "professional development training" has the meaning ascribed to "professional development" in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(42).

**Sec. 3.** Chapter 439 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 4 to 9, inclusive, of this act.

**Sec. 4.** *As used in sections 4 to 9, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 5 and 6 of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

**Sec. 5.** *"State plan" means the plan for improving the provision of behavioral health services for children developed pursuant to section 9 of this act.*

**Sec. 6.** *"Task Force" means the Task Force on the Mental Health of Children created by section 7 of this act.*

**Sec. 7. 1.** *The Task Force on the Mental Health of Children is hereby created within the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, consisting of the following members:*

*(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or his or her designee;*

*(b) The Director of the Department, or his or her designee;*

*(c) The Chief Medical Officer, or his or her designee;*

*(d) The Director of the Department of Corrections, or his or her designee;*

*(e) The Executive Director of the Nevada Indian Commission;*

*(f) The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services of the Department;*

*(g) One member of the Senate, appointed by the Legislative Commission;*

*(h) One member of the Assembly, appointed by the Legislative Commission;*

*(i) A representative of the Nevada Medical Association;*

*(j) Four members who are enrolled members of a Nevada Indian tribe representing Indian tribes located in this State, appointed by the Nevada Indian Commission;*



(k) A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the Attorney General;

(l) The Director of the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, or his or her designee;

(m) A representative of the Department of Education responsible for the education of pupils with disabilities, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction;

(n) A teacher or administrator of an elementary or secondary public school, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction from a list of applications submitted by teachers and administrators;

(o) A person responsible for provision of social services within a county, appointed by the Nevada Association of Counties;

(p) The Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department;

(q) The Administrator of the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department;

(r) A representative of a public facility which provides mental health services, appointed by the Administrator of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health;

(s) A representative of a private facility which provides mental health services, appointed by the Administrator of the Division from a list of recommendations submitted by private facilities that provide mental health services;

(t) A representative of the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council;

(u) The Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education, or his or her designee;

(v) A representative of a juvenile court, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court; and

(w) A pediatrician, appointed by the Chief Medical Officer from a list of recommendations submitted by the Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

2. After the initial terms, the members of the Task Force serve terms of 2 years. A member may be reappointed to the Task Force and any vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

3. The members of the Task Force serve without compensation, except that each member is entitled, while engaged in the business of the Task Force and within the limits of available money, to the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.

**Sec. 8. 1.** The Director of the Department, or his or her designee, shall serve as the Chair of the Task Force.



2. The members of the Task Force shall meet at least once each quarter at the call of the Chair. The Chair may call additional meetings at his or her discretion.

3. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum, and a quorum may exercise all the powers conferred on the Task Force.

**Sec. 9. 1. The Task Force shall:**

(a) Develop a state plan for improving the provision of mental health services for children;

(b) Monitor the progress in carrying out the state plan;

(c) Review and revise the state plan as necessary;

(d) Develop and prioritize the actions necessary to carry out the state plan;

(e) Research and review any other issues that are relevant to the behavioral health of children; and

(f) On or before July 1 of each year, prepare and submit a report to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature concerning its findings and recommendations.

2. For purposes of carrying out the provisions of sections 4 to 9, inclusive, of this act, the Department:

(a) Shall provide the personnel, facilities, equipment and supplies required by the Task Force;

(b) May accept any gifts, grants and donations; and

(c) May enter into contracts and award grants.

**Sec. 10.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

**Sec. 11.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

