

## SENATE BILL NO. 549—COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MAY 22, 2019

Referred to Committee on Finance

**SUMMARY**—Revises provisions relating to allocations of money from the Account for the New Nevada Education Funding Plan. (BDR 34-1276)

**FISCAL NOTE:** Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Executive Budget.

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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 the list of assessments used to determine the number of pupils for whom an allocation from the Account for the New Nevada Education Funding Plan will be made; revising the frequency at which the services funded by such allocations must be evaluated; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires the Department of Education to determine the number of pupils who: (1) are English learners or eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch; (2) scored at or below the 25th percentile of a prescribed assessment; (3) are not enrolled at a Zoom school or Victory school; and (4) do not have an individualized education program. Existing law requires the Department of Education to award an allocation of money from the Account for the New Nevada Education Funding Plan to public schools for each such pupil, beginning with the schools that received the lowest rating pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools and then moving to the schools with the next higher rating to the extent of available money. (NRS 387.131) **Section 1** of this bill removes references to the specific assessments that must be used to determine the pupils in grades kindergarten, 1, 2, 9 or 10 for which such an allocation of money may be awarded and instead requires the use of an assessment implemented by the Department for those grades.

Existing law requires a public school that receives an allocation of money from the Account to use the money to provide certain services. (NRS 387.133) Existing law requires the Department of Education to contract with an independent evaluator to annually evaluate the effectiveness of such services. (NRS 387.139) **Section 2** of this bill requires such an evaluation to be conducted biennially instead of annually.



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

**Section 1.** NRS 387.137 is hereby amended to read as follows:

387.137 1. To determine the proficiency of a pupil pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.131, the Department shall use, for a pupil who is:

(a) An English learner in any grade, the assessment of proficiency in the English language prescribed by the State Board pursuant to NRS 390.810.

(b) In kindergarten or grade 1 or 2, the ~~["Measures of Academic Progress" published by the Northwest Evaluation Association, if]~~ *assessment* implemented by the Department ~~[ ]~~ *for those grades.*

(c) In grade 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8, the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 390.105.

(d) In grade 9 or 10, the ~~[end-of-course examination required pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 6311(b)(2) for mathematics.]~~ *assessment implemented by the Department for those grades.*

(e) In grade 11 or 12, the college and career readiness assessment administered pursuant to NRS 390.610.

2. The Department shall, by regulation, establish a method for projecting the number of pupils who are at or below the 25th percentile for proficiency in any grade level for which an assessment identified in subsection 1 does not exist or does not provide sufficient information to identify all such pupils. Such a method may allow for the number of pupils to be projected by examining:

(a) The proficiency of pupils in nearby grade levels if an assessment for a grade level has not been fully implemented; or

(b) Information on credit deficiency for any grade in high school for which insufficient information exists to identify all such pupils.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 387.139 is hereby amended to read as follows:

387.139 1. The Department shall prescribe school achievement targets and performance targets which must be used by a public school that receives money pursuant to NRS 387.131 to evaluate and track the performance of pupils who receive services pursuant to NRS 387.133. The school achievement targets and performance targets prescribed by the Department must be aligned to the statewide system of accountability for public schools.

2. Each public school that receives money pursuant to NRS 387.131 shall submit, on or before a date prescribed by the board of trustees of the school district in which the public school is located or the sponsor of the charter school, as applicable, a report to the school district or sponsor which uses the school achievement targets and performance targets prescribed by the Department to measure



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1 the effectiveness of the public school in providing services pursuant  
2 to NRS 387.133.

3 3. On or before November 30 of each year, the board of  
4 trustees of a school district and the sponsor of a charter school shall  
5 gather the reports submitted by each public school located in the  
6 school district or sponsored by the sponsor, as applicable, which  
7 contains information for the preceding school year and submit a  
8 report to the Department which contains such information for all  
9 public schools located in the school district or sponsored by the  
10 sponsor.

11 4. The Department shall contract with an independent evaluator  
12 to evaluate the effectiveness of services provided *during each even-*  
13 *numbered year* pursuant to NRS 387.133. The evaluation must  
14 include, without limitation, a determination of whether each public  
15 school is making an effective use of the money received by the  
16 public school pursuant to NRS 387.131 and an identification of  
17 services which have been identified to offer the greatest and the  
18 least improvement to pupil performance. The evaluation must be  
19 provided on or before February 1 of ~~the~~:

20 ~~—(a) Each even-numbered year to the Legislative Committee on~~  
21 ~~Education.~~

22 ~~—(b) Each~~ *each* odd-numbered year to the Director of the  
23 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the next regular  
24 session of the Legislature.

25 **Sec. 3.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do  
26 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a  
27 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

28 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

