

SENATE BILL NO. 151—SENATORS DONDERO LOOP; AND LANGE

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education.
(BDR 34-77)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 1)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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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; requiring the boards of trustees of certain school districts to develop a plan to improve certain pupil to personnel ratios; requiring the boards of trustees of certain school districts to submit an annual report on the plan to the Department of Education; requiring the Department to compile and submit the reports to certain governmental entities; requiring school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers to complete certain continuing education; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt certain regulations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to develop nonbinding recommendations for the ratio of pupils to certain personnel in public schools. (NRS 388.890) **Section 1** of this bill requires the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) to develop a plan to improve ratios of pupils to specialized instructional support personnel to meet the ratio recommended by the State Board. **Section 1** provides that the plan must include, without limitation: (1) strategies to recruit and retain specialized instructional support personnel; and (2) annual targets. **Section 1** further requires the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) to submit an annual report on the implementation of the plan to the Department of Education. **Section 1** requires the Department to submit a compilation of the reports it receives to: (1) the Governor; (2) in odd-numbered years, the Director of the



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Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Education; (3) in even-numbered years, the Legislative Committee on Education; and (4) the State Board.

Existing law outlines the duties of a school counselor, school psychologist and school social worker. (NRS 391.293, 391.294, 391.296) **Section 2** of this bill requires each school counselor, school psychologist and school social worker to complete continuing education as determined by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education. **Section 2** requires the Commission to adopt regulations relating to the continuing education of school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers.

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

Section 1. Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more shall develop a plan to improve the ratio of pupils to specialized instructional support personnel to meet the ratio recommended by the State Board pursuant to NRS 388.890. The plan must include, without limitation:

(a) Strategies to recruit and retain school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers and other specialized instructional support personnel; and

(b) Annual targets to meet the ratio of pupils to specialized instructional support personnel recommended by the State Board pursuant to NRS 388.890.

2. On or before October 1 of each year, the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more shall submit to the Department a report on the implementation of the plan developed pursuant to subsection 1 for the immediately preceding school year. The report must include, without limitation:

(a) The ratio of pupils to specialized instructional support personnel for the immediately preceding school year, disaggregated by type of specialized instructional support personnel, and any progress made to meet the recommended ratio;

(b) An evaluation of the strategies to recruit and retain specialized instructional support personnel implemented pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1; and

(c) A strategy to be implemented over the next school year to meet the annual targets identified pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

3. On or before February 1 of each year, the Department shall submit a compilation of the reports submitted to the Department pursuant to subsection 2 to:



(a) *The Governor;*

(b) *In odd-numbered years, the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Education;*

(c) *In even-numbered years, the Legislative Committee on Education; and*

(d) *The State Board.*

4. *The compilation prepared by the Department pursuant to subsection 3 must allow the information included in the report to be disaggregated by school district. The Department shall post a copy of the compilation on its Internet website.*

5. *As used in this section, "specialized instructional support personnel" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.890.*

Sec. 2. Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. *Each school counselor, school psychologist and school social worker shall complete continuing education as determined by the Commission.*

2. *The Commission shall adopt regulations establishing continuing education requirements for school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers. The regulations must include, without limitation, the amount of continuing education a school counselor, school psychologist or school social worker must complete pursuant to this section.*

Sec. 3. 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. 4. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 2 and 3 of this act become effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On July 1, 2022, for all other purposes.

3. Section 1 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

