

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 428—COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

MARCH 27, 2023

Referred to Committee on Revenue

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to economic development. (BDR 18-775)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 3)  
(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 economic development; requiring the Office of Economic Development to establish and administer a Career Pathways Demonstration Program; revising the membership of the Board of Economic Development; requiring large school districts to offer a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program; authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to enter into certain agreements; authorizing the Board of Regents to offer certain benefits to participants in a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law creates the Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor and prescribes the duties of the Office and its Executive Director, which include, without limitation, the development of a State Plan for Economic Development and the designation of regional development authorities for the regions of this State. (NRS 231.043, 231.053) **Section 1** of this bill requires the Office of Economic Development to establish and administer a Career Pathways Demonstration Program. **Section 1** requires the Office to identify not more than three priority industries, including K-12 education, for the development and implementation of career pathways and to take certain steps to implement the Program, including, without limitation, establishing measurable objectives for the outcomes of the Program and implementing a competitive process to select proposals for career pathway projects. **Section 1** establishes requirements for proposals for career pathway projects selected by the Office. **Section 7** of this bill requires the Office of Economic Development to submit certain reports regarding



\* A B 4 2 8 \*

the status of the Career Pathways Demonstration Program. **Section 9** of this bill provides that the provisions of **section 1** governing the Career Pathways Demonstration Program expire on June 30, 2028.

Existing law creates the Board of Economic Development, which is required to review and make recommendations on various aspects of economic development in Nevada. (NRS 231.033, 231.037) **Section 2** of this bill adds the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a nonvoting member of the Board.

**Section 3** of this bill requires each large school district, meaning a school district in this State which has more than 100,000 pupils enrolled in its public schools (currently only the Clark County School District), to offer a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program at every high school in the school district to enable pupils in grades 10-12 to prepare for employment in professions in K-12 education. **Section 3** requires a large school district to take certain actions to implement the Teacher Academy College Pathway Program.

**Section 5** of this bill authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to: (1) enter into an agreement with a large school district to assist in the implementation of the Teacher Academy College Pathway Program; and (2) offer an earlier application period for pupils who have completed the Teacher Academy College Pathway Program, or who are expected to complete the Program by the end of grade 12, and who wish to apply for admission to an institution within the Nevada System of Higher Education. **Section 6** of this bill authorizes the Board of Regents to establish a program to provide loans for registration fees or other fees assessed against students who are enrolled in a program developed by the System for the education of teachers and who have completed the Teacher Academy College Pathway Program. **Section 6** requires such a loan program, if created, to provide: (1) loan forgiveness for a person who is employed as a full-time, licensed teacher for 3 consecutive school years at a Title I school in this State; and (2) loans at an interest rate of 0 percent per annum for students who commit to employment as a full-time, licensed teacher at a public school in this State for not less than 2 consecutive school years.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 231 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. The Office shall establish and administer a Career Pathways Demonstration Program to develop and implement career pathways that will enable students to prepare for employment in professions which serve the long-term needs of this State. The Office shall identify not more than three priority industries, including, without limitation, K-12 education, for the development and implementation of career pathways as part of the Program.*

*2. In implementing the Program, the Office shall:*

*(a) Establish clear, measurable objectives for the outcomes of the Program which are aligned with the State Plan for Economic Development developed by the Executive Director pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 231.053, including, without limitation, targets based on reliable data concerning:*



- 1       (1) *The number of persons entering the career pathway;*
- 2       (2) *The number and percentage of persons completing*
- 3 *distinct phases of the career pathway, as marked by earning*
- 4 *course credit or a credential, certificate or other recognized*
- 5 *documentation showing progression in the career pathway;*
- 6       (3) *The number and percentage of participants in a career*
- 7 *pathway who obtain high-quality employment in the target*
- 8 *industry; and*
- 9       (4) *The number and percentage of participants in a career*
- 10 *pathway employed for at least 2 years in the target industry.*
- 11       (b) *Rely on economic and workforce development data to*
- 12 *inform decision-making, including, without limitation:*
- 13       (1) *Estimates of the number of high-quality jobs that will be*
- 14 *required in this State in the next 5 to 10 years;*
- 15       (2) *Projected workforce capacity in relation to the estimates*
- 16 *pursuant to subparagraph (1);*
- 17       (3) *The number and capacity of existing industry-aligned*
- 18 *career pathway programs;*
- 19       (4) *Enrollment, participation and completion rates for*
- 20 *industry-aligned career pathway programs;*
- 21       (5) *Credentialing rates or other industry-aligned indicators*
- 22 *of workforce readiness;*
- 23       (6) *Industry-aligned, skill-based employee retention rates;*
- 24 *and*
- 25       (7) *Other relevant data available through the statewide*
- 26 *longitudinal data system maintained by the Executive Director of*
- 27 *the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation pursuant to*
- 28 *NRS 232.975.*
- 29       (c) *Collaborate with school districts, the Nevada System of*
- 30 *Higher Education, regional development authorities and*
- 31 *representatives from priority industries.*
- 32       (d) *Establish criteria for evaluating the performance of career*
- 33 *pathway projects and the entities that assist in the development*
- 34 *and implementation of career pathway projects, including, without*
- 35 *limitation, school districts, the Nevada System of Higher*
- 36 *Education, regional development authorities and representatives*
- 37 *from priority industries.*
- 38       3. *The Office shall develop and implement a competitive*
- 39 *process to select proposals for career pathway projects. Each*
- 40 *proposal for a career pathway project selected by the Office must*
- 41 *incorporate best practices for career pathway design and address,*
- 42 *including, without limitation:*
- 43       (a) *The types of high-quality jobs which the career pathway*
- 44 *project will prepare students for, based on a definition of*



1 *“high-quality job” which shall be developed and promulgated by*  
2 *the Office.*

3 *(b) The educational opportunities that the project will offer to*  
4 *K-12 pupils and students of the Nevada System of Higher*  
5 *Education which may include, without limitation:*

6 *(1) Early exposure to career options for pupils in*  
7 *elementary, junior high or middle school;*

8 *(2) Multiple entry points into the career pathway;*

9 *(3) Meaningful, practice-based learning opportunities*  
10 *aligned to the career pathway and the workforce priorities within*  
11 *the target industry, including, without limitation, paid work-based*  
12 *learning opportunities; and*

13 *(4) Opportunities for students to receive credentials aligned*  
14 *to the skills and experience needed for employment in the target*  
15 *industry.*

16 *(c) The practices that will be implemented to recruit students*  
17 *for the career pathway, including, without limitation, practices*  
18 *that will foster equity and the inclusion in the career pathway of*  
19 *students from historically underserved communities.*

20 *(d) The types of early career guidance, incentives and support*  
21 *that will be offered to participants in the career pathway, which*  
22 *may include, without limitation:*

23 *(1) Employment opportunities for students who participate*  
24 *in the career pathway, including, without limitation, employer*  
25 *commitments to recruiting students who successfully obtain the*  
26 *qualifications for employment through the career pathway;*

27 *(2) Professional support and development opportunities for*  
28 *participants early in their career in the target industry, including,*  
29 *without limitation, mentoring; and*

30 *(3) Financial incentives which eliminate or substantially*  
31 *reduce financial barriers to entry into professions in the target*  
32 *industry.*

33 *(e) The roles and responsibilities of the persons necessary to*  
34 *develop and implement the career pathway, which may include,*  
35 *without limitation:*

36 *(1) Program staff;*

37 *(2) School districts and the Nevada System of Higher*  
38 *Education;*

39 *(3) Regional development authorities; and*

40 *(4) Representatives from the target industries.*

41 *(f) The financial plan for the career pathway project,*  
42 *including, without limitation:*

43 *(1) The projected 5-year budget for the career pathway*  
44 *project;*



(2) Existing funding sources for the career pathway project and the amount of funding that the person submitting the proposal will allocate to the project;

(3) Anticipated funding sources for the career pathway project; and

(4) Any additional funding necessary to implement the career pathway project which is not addressed by the existing funding sources.

(g) The goals and anticipated outcomes of the career pathway project, including, without limitation:

(1) The target number of total participants in the career pathway project;

(2) The target number of participants who will successfully complete each stage of the career pathway, as marked by earning course credit or a credential, certificate or other recognized documentation showing progression in the career pathway; and

(3) The target number of participants who will complete the career pathway, regardless of their entry point into the career pathway.

4. As used in this section, "career pathway" means a series of structured and connected educational opportunities designed to help a person enter or advance within a given occupation or industry sector.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 231.033 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.033 1. There is hereby created the Board of Economic Development, consisting of:

(a) The following voting members:

(1) The Governor;

(2) The Lieutenant Governor;

(3) The Secretary of State; and

(4) Six members who must be selected from the private sector and appointed as follows:

(I) Three members appointed by the Governor;

(II) One member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;

(III) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate; and

(IV) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Assembly or the Minority Leader of the Senate. The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint the member for the initial term, the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint the member for the next succeeding term, and thereafter, the authority to appoint the member for each subsequent term alternates between the Minority Leader of the Assembly and the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(b) The following nonvoting members:



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

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

(3) The Director of the Department of Business and Industry; and

~~[(3)]~~ (4) The Director of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation.

2. In appointing the members of the Board described in subsection 1, the appointing authorities shall coordinate the appointments when practicable so that the members of the Board represent the diversity of this State, including, without limitation, different strategically important industries, different geographic regions of this State and different professions.

3. The Governor shall serve as the Chair of the Board.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the members of the Board appointed pursuant to subparagraph (4) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 are appointed for terms of 4 years. The initial members of the Board shall by lot select three of the initial members of the Board appointed pursuant to subparagraph (4) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 to serve an initial term of 2 years.

5. The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor or the Secretary of State may designate a person to serve as a member of the Board for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Secretary of State, respectively. Any person designated to serve pursuant to this subsection shall serve for the term of the officer appointing him or her and serves at the pleasure of that officer. If the Governor designates a person to serve on his or her behalf, that person shall serve as the Chair of the Board. Vacancies in the appointed positions on the Board must be filled by the appointing authority for the unexpired term.

6. The Executive Director shall serve as the nonvoting Secretary of the Board.

7. A majority of the voting members of the Board constitutes a quorum, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members of the Board is required to exercise any power conferred on the Board.

8. The Board shall meet at least once each quarter but may meet more often at the call of the Chair or a majority of the voting members of the Board.

9. The members of the Board serve without compensation but are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally while engaged in the official business of the Board.



**Sec. 3.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. Each large school district shall offer a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program at every high school in the school district that will enable interested pupils in grades 10, 11 and 12 to prepare for employment in professions in K-12 education.*

*2. A large school district shall:*

*(a) Advertise the Program and the benefits of participation in the Program.*

*(b) Ensure each high school in the large school district is staffed by a full-time employee who is:*

*(1) A licensed teacher or administrator; and*

*(2) Responsible for implementing the Program at the school.*

*(c) Assess each pupil entering grade 10 who is interested in participating in the Program, identify barriers to the participation in and completion of the Program by such interested pupils and implement appropriate supportive measures to assist pupils to participate in and complete the Program.*

*(d) Offer internships at elementary, junior high and middle schools in the large school district to qualified pupils in grade 12 who participate in the Program.*

*(e) Offer employment as a paraprofessional to qualified high school graduates who have completed the Program and are enrolled in a program to become a teacher at an institution in the Nevada System of Higher Education.*

*(f) For qualified applicants for employment with the large school district who have completed the Program and who have submitted a timely application, provide an offer of employment or decline to provide an offer of employment to such an applicant not later than January 31 of the year immediately preceding the school year for which the applicant applied for employment.*

*(g) Enter into an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to:*

*(1) Enable pupils who participate in the Program to earn up to 12 units of college credit for courses taken and internships engaged in as part of the Program at no cost to the pupil.*

*(2) Provide a faculty mentor from the Nevada System of Higher Education to teachers of the school district who teach courses in the Program which are eligible for college credit to ensure such courses align with the contents and rigor of equivalent courses taught at institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education.*

*(3) Establish qualifications for teachers of the school district who teach courses in the Program which are eligible for*





college credit, which may include, without limitation, a minimum of 4 years of classroom teaching experience or a Master's degree.

(4) Guarantee the admission of qualified pupils who complete the Program to institutions in the Nevada System of Higher Education.

3. As used in this section:

(a) "Large school district" means any school district in this State which has more than 100,000 pupils enrolled in its public schools.

(b) "Program" means the Teacher Academy College Pathway Program created pursuant to this section.

**Sec. 4.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 5 and 6 of this act.

**Sec. 5. 1.** The Board of Regents may enter into an agreement with a large school district pursuant to section 3 of this act to assist in the implementation of a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program.

2. The Board of Regents may offer an earlier application period for pupils who have completed the Program, or who are expected to complete the Program by the end of grade 12, and who wish to apply for admission to an institution within the System.

3. As used in this section:

(a) "Large school district" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 3 of this act.

(b) "Program" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 3 of this act.

**Sec. 6. 1.** The Board of Regents may establish and administer a program to provide loans for registration fees or other fees assessed against students other than tuition charges pursuant to NRS 396.540 to students who:

(a) Are enrolled in a program developed by the System for the education of teachers; and

(b) Completed a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program offered pursuant to section 3 of this act.

2. If the Board of Regents establishes a loan program pursuant to subsection 1, the Board of Regents shall:

(a) Forgive the outstanding balance of a loan made through the program to a person who is employed as a full-time, licensed teacher for 3 consecutive school years at a Title I school in this State.

(b) Provide loans at an interest rate of 0 percent per annum for students who commit to employment as a full-time, licensed teacher at a public school in this State for not less than 2 consecutive school years.





1     **3. The Board of Regents may adopt regulations as are**  
2     **necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.**

3     **Sec. 7.** 1. On or before October 1, 2026, the Office of  
4     Economic Development shall submit a report to the Governor and  
5     the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the  
6     Legislature regarding the status of the Career Pathways  
7     Demonstration Program. The report must include, without  
8     limitation:

9         (a) The industries identified by the Office as priority industries  
10        for the development and implementation of career pathways;

11       (b) The process used by the Office to select career pathway  
12        projects for development and implementation;

13       (c) The career pathway projects selected by the Office;

14       (d) A summary of the design of the career pathway for each  
15        priority industry;

16       (e) The goals and objectives of the career pathway for each  
17        priority industry;

18       (f) The status of the implementation of each career pathway;

19       (g) A summary of the proposals for career pathway projects  
20        which were received by the Office but were not selected for the  
21        Program; and

22       (h) An evaluation of each career pathway, including, without  
23        limitation:

24           (1) Whether progress has been made towards achieving the  
25           goals and objectives of each career pathway;

26           (2) A description of any challenges to implementation of the  
27           career pathways; and

28           (3) A description of any changes made to the design or  
29           implementation of the career pathways, if any, or any changes  
30           which are anticipated in the future and the reason for such changes.

31     2. On or before June 1, 2028, the Office of Economic  
32     Development shall submit a report to the Governor and the Director  
33     of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature  
34     regarding the status of the Career Pathways Demonstration Program.  
35     The report must include, without limitation:

36       (a) The industries identified by the Office as priority industries  
37        for the development and implementation of career pathways;

38       (b) The process used by the Office to select career pathway  
39        projects for development and implementation;

40       (c) The career pathway projects selected by the Office;

41       (d) A summary of the design of the career pathway for each  
42        priority industry;

43       (e) The goals and objectives of the career pathway for each  
44        priority industry;



(f) An evaluation of each career pathway, including, without limitation:

(1) The success of the career pathway at achieving the industry-specific goals and objectives;

(2) An assessment of the return on investment for the State with respect to the career pathway;

(3) A description of any opportunities to extend or expand the career pathway;

(4) An evaluation of ability of the career pathway to serve as a model for the creation of career pathways in other industries which should be prioritized to aid in the economic development of this State; and

(5) Any quantitative and qualitative data supporting the items required to be included in the report pursuant to subparagraphs (1) to (4), inclusive.

(g) An evaluation of the success of the Program as a whole, including, without limitation:

(1) The overall outcomes of the Program, in relation to the goals and objectives established by the Office;

(2) Successful aspects of the Program and key elements contributing to the success of the Program;

(3) Shortcomings of the Program and key elements hindering the success of the Program;

(4) Recommendations for policy changes that would foster successful expansion of the development and implementation of career pathways by the Office; and

(5) Any quantitative and qualitative data supporting the items required to be included in the report pursuant to subparagraphs (1) to (4), inclusive.

**Sec. 8.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 9.** 1. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

2. Section 1 of this act expires on June 30, 2028.

