(Reprinted with amendments adopted on June 2, 2025)
FOURTH REPRINT **A.B. 386**

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 386–ASSEMBLYMEMBERS GOULDING; AND HUNT

MARCH 10, 2025

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to assessments administered to pupils to assess reading proficiency. (BDR S-828)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; authorizing the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District to establish and administer a pilot program during the 2025-2026 school year to use an alternative assessment to assess the literacy of pupils enrolled in an elementary school if the alternative assessment satisfies certain criteria; requiring the Department of Education to award a grant to the Washoe County School District in an amount equal to the savings to the Department for not administering the statewide assessment to pupils enrolled in the School District; requiring a report concerning the program to be submitted to the Department and the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to prepare a plan to improve the literacy of pupils enrolled in an elementary school. Such a plan must include procedures to assess the proficiency of a pupil in reading during each grade level of elementary school, as is determined to be necessary, by using assessments that have been approved by the State Board of Education by regulation. (NRS 388.157) This bill authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District to establish and administer a pilot program during the 2025-2026 school year to administer an assessment other than the statewide assessment to assess the proficiency of pupils in reading if the State Board approves the assessment. Under this bill, the State Board is required to approve such an assessment if the assessment is a valid and reliable

standards-based assessment to assess proficiency in reading and the Department of Education has established a method to establish an equivalent score to a score on the statewide assessment. This bill further provides that, if the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District administers such an assessment to assess proficiency in reading other than the statewide assessment, the Department is required to award a grant to the School District in an amount equal to the savings to the Department for not administering the statewide assessment to pupils in the School District. Finally, this bill requires the Washoe County School District to submit a report to the Department and the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education concerning the pilot program.

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

Section 1. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 2. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3. 1. For the 2025-2026 school year, the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District may establish and administer a pilot program for the administration of an assessment other than the statewide assessment to determine, for the purposes of the plan to improve the literacy of pupils enrolled in an elementary school prepared pursuant to NRS 388.157, whether pupils enrolled in the Washoe County School District have achieved adequate proficiency in the requisite reading skills and reading comprehension skills necessary to perform at a level determined by the statewide assessment to be within a level determined by the State Board of Education.

2. Any assessment administered by the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District pursuant to the pilot program established and administered pursuant to subsection 1 must be approved by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall approve any such assessment if:

(a) The assessment is a valid and reliable standards-based assessment to assess the proficiency of pupils in the subject area of reading; and

(b) The Department of Education has established for the assessment a method to determine an equivalent score to a score on a statewide assessment.

3. If, pursuant to the pilot program established and administered pursuant to subsection 1, the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District administers an assessment to assess the proficiency of a pupil in the subject area of reading other than the statewide assessment:

(a) The Board of Trustees is not required to administer the statewide assessment for the purposes of the plan prepared pursuant to NRS 388.157; and

(b) The Department of Education shall award a grant to the Washoe County School District in an amount equal to the savings to the Department for not administering the statewide assessment to pupils enrolled in the Washoe County School District.

4. Not later than August 31, 2026, the Washoe County School District shall provide a report to the Department of Education and the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education concerning the pilot program established and administered pursuant to subsection 1 that includes, without limitation:

(a) Information concerning the assessment administered pursuant to the pilot program;

(b) The method by which the assessment administered pursuant to the pilot program establishes a score that is equivalent to a score on the statewide assessment; and

(c) Information concerning the grant made to the School District by the Department pursuant to subsection 3.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025, and expires by limitation on June 30, 2026.

㉚