

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 230—ASSEMBLYMEN BOBZIEN, EISEN, SPRINKLE, ELLIOT ANDERSON, HAMBRICK; AIZLEY, BENITEZ-THOMPSON, HORNE, KIRKPATRICK AND NEAL

MARCH 11, 2013

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS SPEARMAN, PARKS, SEGERBLOM AND MANENDO

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing courses of instruction in sex education. (BDR 34-1034)

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 education; requiring the board of trustees of each school district to establish a comprehensive, age-appropriate and medically accurate course of instruction in sex education; requiring the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to establish standards of content and performance for a course of instruction in sex education as part of a course of study in health; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law requires the board of trustees of a school district to establish a  
2 course or a unit of a course of instruction concerning acquired immune deficiency  
3 syndrome, the human reproductive system, related communicable diseases and  
4 sexual responsibility which must be taught by a teacher or school nurse whose  
5 qualifications have been approved by the board of trustees. Existing law further  
6 requires the board of trustees to appoint an advisory committee to advise the district  
7 concerning the content of and materials to be used in such a course of instruction  
8 and requires the parent or guardian of a pupil to consent in writing before the pupil  
9 may participate in the course. (NRS 389.065) **Section 1** of this bill requires the  
10 board of trustees of each school district to establish a course of factual instruction  
11 in sex education and prescribes the topics which must be included in the course of  
12 instruction. **Section 1** requires that the course of instruction in sex education be



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13 age-appropriate for the pupils who receive the instruction, comprehensive and, as  
14 applicable, medically accurate. **Section 1** additionally revises the composition of  
15 the membership of the advisory committee and revises the qualifications which  
16 authorize a person to teach the course of instruction in sex education. **Section 1**  
17 requires the notice to the parent or guardian of a pupil to whom a course of  
18 instruction in sex education is offered to include a form for the parent or guardian  
19 to opt the pupil out of the course of instruction.

20 Existing law requires the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public  
21 Schools to establish standards of content and performance for certain courses of  
22 study, including health. (NRS 389.520) **Section 2** of this bill requires the Council to  
23 establish standards of content and performance for the course of instruction in sex  
24 education required by **section 1** as part of the course of study in health.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 389.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 389.065 1. The board of trustees of ~~the~~ *each* school district  
3 shall establish ~~a course or unit of~~ a course of ~~the~~  
4 ~~—(a) Factual~~ *factual* instruction ~~concerning acquired~~ *in sex*  
5 *education. The course of instruction must comply with the*  
6 *standards of content and performance for a course of study in*  
7 *health established by the Council to Establish Academic Standards*  
8 *for Public Schools pursuant to NRS 389.520 and must be age-*  
9 *appropriate for the pupils who receive the instruction. Based upon*  
10 *the grade level of pupils designated by the board of trustees, the*  
11 *course of instruction must include comprehensive, and as*  
12 *applicable, medically accurate, information regarding:*  
13 (a) *Acquired* immune deficiency syndrome ~~and~~, *including,*  
14 *without limitation, the human immunodeficiency virus;*  
15 (b) ~~Instruction on the~~ *The* human reproductive system, ~~related~~  
16 ~~communicable~~ *including, without limitation, anatomy and*  
17 *physiology, puberty, pregnancy, parenting, body image, gender*  
18 *stereotypes and the biological, psychosocial and emotional*  
19 *changes that accompany maturation;*  
20 (c) *Communicable* diseases ~~and sexual responsibility~~ *that are*  
21 *known to be sexually transmitted, including, without limitation,*  
22 *the proper use and effectiveness of methods to avoid such diseases,*  
23 *and the availability, effectiveness and safety of any vaccinations,*  
24 *tests and treatments for such diseases;*  
25 (d) *Domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual assault,*  
26 *exploitation and human trafficking;*  
27 (e) *The development of skills necessary to promote sexual*  
28 *responsibility, including, without limitation, skills to assist pupils*  
29 *in setting and meeting goals, identifying the characteristics of a*



1 *healthy relationship, negotiating, communicating with parents and*  
2 *family, and refusing unwanted sexual advances or activity;*

3 *(f) Methods of contraception which may be used to prevent*  
4 *pregnancy, including, without limitation, the proper use,*  
5 *effectiveness, safety, health benefits and side effects of each*  
6 *method of contraception;*

7 *(g) The importance of abstinence as the most effective method*  
8 *of preventing an unwanted pregnancy or a sexually transmitted*  
9 *disease;*

10 *(h) The identification and explanation of available counseling*  
11 *and legal and medical information concerning health services,*  
12 *including, without limitation, resources to assist pupils with*  
13 *addressing and escaping a violent or exploitative relationship,*  
14 *effective and safe methods of contraception and contraceptive*  
15 *devices, and screening and treatment for sexually transmitted*  
16 *diseases and other related communicable diseases;*

17 *(i) The effects of alcohol and drug use on responsible decision*  
18 *making;*

19 *(j) Data to counter misinformation about and the effects of*  
20 *peer pressure and of social and other media on a pupil's thoughts,*  
21 *feelings and behaviors related to sexuality and sexual behavior;*  
22 *and*

23 *(k) The state and federal laws relating to consent, the age of*  
24 *consent, statutory rape, the electronic transmission of sexual*  
25 *images prohibited by NRS 200.737 or other material and any other*  
26 *legal issues relevant to sex education.*

27 *↳ The board of trustees shall periodically revise the content of the*  
28 *course of instruction as necessary to ensure that the content of the*  
29 *course of instruction is current, age-appropriate and, as*  
30 *applicable, medically accurate.*

31 *2. The course of instruction offered pursuant to this section*  
32 *must:*

33 *(a) Use methods of teaching and include materials which*  
34 *ensure nondiscriminatory instruction of all pupils, regardless of*  
35 *race, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, sexual*  
36 *orientation, ethnic or cultural background or disability.*

37 *(b) Appropriately prepare pupils who have or are currently*  
38 *engaged in sexual activity and pupils who may engage in sexual*  
39 *activity in the future.*

40 *3. Each board of trustees shall appoint an advisory committee*  
41 *consisting of:*

42 *(a) Five parents of children who attend ~~[schools]~~ a school in the*  
43 *district; ~~[and]~~*

44 *(b) Two pupils who attend a school in the district; and*



1 (c) Four representatives, one from each of ~~four of~~ the  
2 following professions, ~~or~~ occupations ~~or~~ backgrounds:

- 3 (1) Medicine or nursing;
- 4 (2) Counseling;
- 5 (3) Religion ~~or~~, *spirituality or community life; and*
- 6 (4) ~~Pupils who attend schools in the district; or~~
- 7 ~~(5) Teaching.~~ *Education.*

8 ~~This~~ *The board of trustees may appoint additional members to*  
9 *the advisory committee who are representatives of the community.*

10 4. *The advisory committee appointed pursuant to subsection 3*  
11 *shall advise the ~~district~~ board of trustees concerning all aspects of*  
12 *the course of instruction established pursuant to this section,*  
13 *including, without limitation:*

14 (a) *Instructors who have demonstrated an appropriate level of*  
15 *competency to teach a comprehensive, age-appropriate and*  
16 *medically accurate course of instruction in sex education;*

17 (b) *The content of and materials to be used in ~~a~~ the course of*  
18 *instruction ; ~~established pursuant to this section,~~ and ~~the~~*  
19 *recommended*

20 (c) *The ages of the pupils to whom each subject of the course*  
21 *~~is~~ of instruction may be offered.*

22 ~~The final decision on these matters must be that of the board of~~  
23 ~~trustees.~~

24 ~~3.~~ 5. The subjects of the ~~courses~~ *course of instruction* may  
25 be taught only by ~~a~~ :

- 26 (a) *A teacher ~~or school~~ ;*
- 27 (b) *A professional educator;*
- 28 (c) *A nurse ; or*
- 29 (d) *A provider of health care,*

30 ~~as advised by the advisory committee pursuant to paragraph (a)~~  
31 *of subsection 4 and whose qualifications have been previously*  
32 *approved by the board of trustees.*

33 ~~4.~~ 6. The parent or guardian of each pupil to whom a course  
34 *of instruction* is offered *pursuant to this section* must first be  
35 furnished written notice that the course will be offered. The notice  
36 must be given in the usual manner used by the local district to  
37 transmit written material to parents, and must ~~contain~~ *include* a  
38 form for ~~the signature of~~ the parent or guardian of the pupil  
39 ~~consenting~~ to *opt* the ~~pupil's attendance. Upon receipt of the~~  
40 ~~written consent of the parent or guardian, the~~ pupil ~~may attend~~  
41 *out of* the course ~~or~~ *of instruction*. If the ~~written consent of the~~  
42 parent or guardian ~~is not received,~~ *opts the pupil out of the course*  
43 *of instruction*, the pupil must be excused from such attendance  
44 without any penalty as to credits or academic standing. Any course



1 *of instruction* offered pursuant to this section is not a requirement  
2 for graduation.

3 ~~§~~ 7. All instructional materials to be used in a course *of*  
4 *instruction offered pursuant to this section* must be available for  
5 inspection by parents or guardians of pupils at reasonable times and  
6 locations before the course is taught, and appropriate written notice  
7 of the availability of the material must be furnished to all parents  
8 and guardians.

9 8. *As used in this section:*

10 (a) *“Age-appropriate” means designed to teach concepts,*  
11 *information and skills based on the social, cognitive, emotional*  
12 *and experience level of most pupils of a particular age.*

13 (b) *“Gender identity or expression” means a gender-related*  
14 *identity, appearance, expression or behavior of a person,*  
15 *regardless of the person’s assigned sex at birth.*

16 (c) *“Medically accurate” means:*

17 (1) *Verified or supported by current or prevailing scientific*  
18 *evidence;*

19 (2) *Published by peer-reviewed scientific or medical*  
20 *journals; or*

21 (3) *Recognized as accurate and objective by a professional*  
22 *organization or agency, including, without limitation, the Centers*  
23 *for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States*  
24 *Department of Health and Human Services, the American*  
25 *Academy of Pediatrics, the American Public Health Association or*  
26 *the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.*

27 (d) *“Provider of health care” means a person who is licensed,*  
28 *certified or otherwise authorized by the laws of this State to*  
29 *administer health care in the ordinary course of business or*  
30 *practice of a profession.*

31 (e) *“Sex education” means a sexuality education program that*  
32 *builds a foundation of knowledge and skills relating to human*  
33 *development, relationships, decision-making, abstinence,*  
34 *contraception and disease prevention.*

35 (f) *“Sexual orientation” means having or being perceived as*  
36 *having an orientation of heterosexuality, homosexuality or*  
37 *bisexuality.*

38 **Sec. 2.** NRS 389.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 389.520 1. The Council shall:

40 (a) Establish standards of content and performance, including,  
41 without limitation, a prescription of the resulting level of  
42 achievement, for the grade levels set forth in subsection 3, based  
43 upon the content of each course, that is expected of pupils for the  
44 following courses of study:

45 (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;



- 1 (2) Mathematics;
  - 2 (3) Science;
  - 3 (4) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of
  - 4 history, geography, economics and government;
  - 5 (5) The arts;
  - 6 (6) Computer education and technology;
  - 7 (7) Health **H**, *including, without limitation, the course of*
  - 8 *instruction in sex education required by NRS 389.065;* and
  - 9 (8) Physical education.
- 10 (b) Establish a schedule for the periodic review and, if
- 11 necessary, revision of the standards of content and performance. The
- 12 review must include, without limitation, the review required
- 13 pursuant to NRS 389.570 of the results of pupils on the
- 14 examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.
- 15 (c) Assign priorities to the standards of content and performance
- 16 relative to importance and degree of emphasis and revise the
- 17 standards, if necessary, based upon the priorities.
- 18 2. The standards for computer education and technology must
- 19 include a policy for the ethical, safe and secure use of computers
- 20 and other electronic devices. The policy must include, without
- 21 limitation:
- 22 (a) The ethical use of computers and other electronic devices,
- 23 including, without limitation:
- 24 (1) Rules of conduct for the acceptable use of the Internet
- 25 and other electronic devices; and
- 26 (2) Methods to ensure the prevention of:
- 27 (I) Cyber-bullying;
- 28 (II) Plagiarism; and
- 29 (III) The theft of information or data in an electronic
- 30 form;
- 31 (b) The safe use of computers and other electronic devices,
- 32 including, without limitation, methods to:
- 33 (1) Avoid harassment, cyber-bullying and other unwanted
- 34 electronic communication, including, without limitation,
- 35 communication with on-line predators;
- 36 (2) Recognize when an on-line electronic communication is
- 37 dangerous or potentially dangerous; and
- 38 (3) Report a dangerous or potentially dangerous on-line
- 39 electronic communication to the appropriate school personnel;
- 40 (c) The secure use of computers and other electronic devices,
- 41 including, without limitation:
- 42 (1) Methods to maintain the security of personal identifying
- 43 information and financial information, including, without limitation,
- 44 identifying unsolicited electronic communication which is sent for



1 the purpose of obtaining such personal and financial information for  
2 an unlawful purpose;

3 (2) The necessity for secure passwords or other unique  
4 identifiers;

5 (3) The effects of a computer contaminant;

6 (4) Methods to identify unsolicited commercial material; and

7 (5) The dangers associated with social networking Internet  
8 sites; and

9 (d) A designation of the level of detail of instruction  
10 as appropriate for the grade level of pupils who receive the  
11 instruction.

12 3. The Council shall establish standards of content and  
13 performance for each grade level in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8,  
14 inclusive, for English and mathematics. The Council shall establish  
15 standards of content and performance for the grade levels selected  
16 by the Council for the other courses of study prescribed in  
17 subsection 1.

18 4. The Council shall forward to the State Board the standards  
19 of content and performance established by the Council for each  
20 course of study. The State Board shall:

21 (a) Adopt the standards for each course of study, as submitted  
22 by the Council; or

23 (b) If the State Board objects to the standards for a course of  
24 study or a particular grade level for a course of study, return those  
25 standards to the Council with a written explanation setting forth the  
26 reason for the objection.

27 5. If the State Board returns to the Council the standards of  
28 content and performance for a course of study or a grade level, the  
29 Council shall:

30 (a) Consider the objection provided by the State Board and  
31 determine whether to revise the standards based upon the objection;  
32 and

33 (b) Return the standards or the revised standards, as applicable,  
34 to the State Board.

35 ➔ The State Board shall adopt the standards of content and  
36 performance or the revised standards, as applicable.

37 6. The Council shall work in cooperation with the State Board  
38 to prescribe the examinations required by NRS 389.550.

39 7. As used in this section:

40 (a) "Computer contaminant" has the meaning ascribed to it in  
41 NRS 205.4737.

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

44 (c) "Electronic communication" has the meaning ascribed to it  
45 in NRS 388.124.



1     **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

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