

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 231—ASSEMBLYWOMEN COHEN AND
KRASNER

MARCH 11, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing education on the Holocaust and other genocides. (BDR 34-97)

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; establishing the Account for Instruction on the Holocaust and Other Genocides in the State General Fund; authorizing the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to establish standards of content and performance for instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides; imposing certain additional duties on the Governor’s Advisory Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust; requiring the State Board of Education to appoint a subcommittee to conduct an interim study on providing curriculum on the Holocaust and other genocides; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates and sets forth the duties of the Governor’s Advisory
2 Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust. (NRS 233G.020, 233G.040)
3 **Section 4** of this bill imposes additional duties on the Council relating to the
4 provision of education in this State on issues relating to the Holocaust and other
5 genocides.

6 **Section 1** of this bill establishes the Account for Instruction on the Holocaust
7 and Other Genocides in the State General Fund and requires that the money in the
8 Account be expended only for the purpose of providing instruction on the
9 Holocaust and other genocides.

10 **Section 5** of this bill requires the State Board of Education to appoint a
11 subcommittee to study curriculum on instruction on the Holocaust and other
12 genocides during the 2021-2022 interim. Existing law creates the Council to
13 Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools. (NRS 389.510) **Section 2** of this
14 bill authorizes the Council to establish standards of content and performance for



15 instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides. **Section 3** of this bill makes a
16 conforming change to indicate the placement of **section 2** in the Nevada Revised
17 Statutes.

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

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

3 *1. The Account for Instruction on the Holocaust and Other*
4 *Genocides is hereby created in the State General Fund, to be*
5 *administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The*
6 *Superintendent of Public Instruction may accept gifts and grants*
7 *of money from any source for deposit in the Account. Any money*
8 *from gifts and grants may be expended in accordance with the*
9 *terms and conditions of the gift or grant, or in accordance with*
10 *subsection 2. The interest and income earned on the sum of the*
11 *money in the Account and any unexpended appropriations made*
12 *to the Account from the State General Fund must be credited to*
13 *the Account. Any money remaining in the Account at the end of*
14 *the fiscal year does not revert to the State General Fund, and the*
15 *balance in the Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal*
16 *year.*

17 *2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, the money in*
18 *the Account must be used only for providing instruction on the*
19 *Holocaust and other genocides as may be required by section 2 of*
20 *this act. The State Board shall adopt regulations governing the*
21 *distribution of money in the Account for this purpose.*

22 **Sec. 2.** Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
23 thereto a new section to read as follows:

24 *1. The Council may establish standards of content and*
25 *performance for instruction on the Holocaust and other*
26 *genocides.*

27 *2. If the Council establishes standards of content and*
28 *performance for instruction on the Holocaust and other*
29 *genocides, the board of trustees of a school district and the*
30 *governing body of a charter school shall provide instruction on the*
31 *Holocaust and other genocides that complies with the standards of*
32 *content and performance established by the Council pursuant to*
33 *this section.*

34 *3. If the Council establishes standards of content and*
35 *performance for instruction on the Holocaust and other*
36 *genocides, the Department shall:*



1 (a) Provide technical assistance to the board of trustees of a
2 school district or the governing body of a charter school that
3 offers instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides;

4 (b) Distribute information and resources on appropriate
5 materials or other resources for instruction on the Holocaust and
6 other genocides to the board of trustees of a school district or the
7 governing body of a charter school that offers instruction on the
8 Holocaust and other genocides; and

9 (c) Provide training programs, which may include, without
10 limitation, training programs identified pursuant to NRS
11 233G.040, on providing instruction on the Holocaust and other
12 genocides for school personnel who administer instruction on the
13 Holocaust and other genocides.

14 4. The governing body of a private school may request
15 information on the technical assistance, information and
16 resources or training programs required to be developed pursuant
17 to subsection 3 from the Department. The Department may
18 provide such information to a governing body of a private school
19 that requests the information.

20 5. The State Board may adopt such regulations as necessary
21 to carry out the provisions of this section.

22 6. As used in this section:

23 (a) "Genocide" means acts committed with the intent to
24 destroy, in whole or in part, a national ethnic, racial or religious
25 group, including, without limitation:

26 (1) Killing members of the group;

27 (2) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of
28 the group;

29 (3) Deliberately inflicting conditions on the group
30 calculated to bring about the physical destruction of the group, in
31 whole or in part;

32 (4) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the
33 group; or

34 (5) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another
35 group.

36 (b) "Holocaust" means the systematic, bureaucratic, state-
37 sponsored persecution and murder of approximately 6 million
38 Jewish persons and 5 million other persons by the Nazi regime
39 and its collaborators between 1933-1945.

40 **Sec. 3.** NRS 389.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 389.500 As used in NRS 389.500 to 389.540, inclusive, *and*
42 *section 2 of this act*, "Council" means the Council to Establish
43 Academic Standards for Public Schools.

44 **Sec. 4.** NRS 233G.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

45 233G.040 The Council shall:



1 1. *Consult with an organization with expertise in providing*
2 *instruction relating to the Holocaust and other genocides to*
3 *identify strategies and content for providing and enhancing*
4 *education in issues relating to the Holocaust and other genocides*
5 *in this State.*

6 2. Develop programs for the education of children and adults in
7 issues relating to the Holocaust ~~§~~ *and other genocides*, make
8 reports and advise public and private bodies throughout the State on
9 matters relevant to education concerning the Holocaust ~~§~~ *and other*
10 *genocides.*

11 ~~§~~ 3. *Advise the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the*
12 *board of trustees of school districts, the governing bodies of*
13 *charter schools and the governing bodies of private schools on*
14 *strategies and content for providing and enhancing education in*
15 *issues relating to the Holocaust and other genocides in this State.*

16 4. *Identify programs and resources to train teachers in*
17 *providing education in issues relating to the Holocaust and other*
18 *genocides.*

19 5. *Promote the implementation of education in issues relating*
20 *to the Holocaust and other genocides in this State.*

21 6. Develop programs to raise money for the use of the Council
22 in carrying out its duties. Any money raised by the Council pursuant
23 to this subsection must be accounted for separately in the State
24 General Fund and is authorized for expenditure by the Council in
25 carrying out its duties.

26 7. *On or before February 1 of each year, submit a report on*
27 *the status of education in issues relating to the Holocaust and*
28 *other genocides in this State to:*

29 (a) *In odd-numbered years, the Director of the Legislative*
30 *Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the next regular session of the*
31 *Legislature; and*

32 (b) *In even-numbered years, the Legislative Committee on*
33 *Education.*

34 **Sec. 5.** 1. The State Board of Education shall appoint a
35 subcommittee to study the manner in which instruction on the
36 Holocaust and other genocides is currently offered by public schools
37 within this State.

38 2. The study conducted by the subcommittee pursuant to this
39 section must include, without limitation:

40 (a) The number of school districts, public schools and charter
41 schools that offer instruction in this State on the Holocaust and other
42 genocides;

43 (b) The number of school districts, public schools and charter
44 schools that use the technical assistance, information and resources



1 or training programs required to be developed by the Department of
2 Education pursuant to section 2 of this act;

3 (c) A description of the manner in which school districts, public
4 schools and charter schools that offer instruction on the Holocaust
5 and other genocides conduct such instruction including, without
6 limitation, the number of hours provided in the instruction, the grade
7 levels in which the instruction is provided and the subject area
8 within which the instruction is provided; and

9 (d) Recommendations for the content of curriculum for
10 instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides, which must,
11 without limitation:

12 (1) Prepare students to confront the immorality of the
13 Holocaust, other genocides and other acts of mass violence and to
14 reflect on the causes of related historical events;

15 (2) Address the breadth of the history of the Holocaust,
16 including, without limitation, the dictatorship of the Third Reich, the
17 system of concentration camps, persecution of both Jewish and non-
18 Jewish people, resistance to the Third Reich and the Holocaust by
19 both Jewish and non-Jewish people and trials that occurred after the
20 end of World War II;

21 (3) Develop the respect of pupils for cultural diversity and
22 help pupils gain insight into the importance of the protection of
23 international human rights for all people;

24 (4) Promote the understanding of pupils of how the
25 Holocaust contributed to the need for the term "genocide" and led to
26 international legislation that recognized genocide as a crime;

27 (5) Communicate the impact of personal responsibility, civic
28 engagement and societal responses;

29 (6) Stimulate the reflection of pupils on the roles and
30 responsibilities of citizens in democratic societies to combat
31 misinformation, indifference and discrimination through
32 development of critical thinking skills and through tools of
33 resistance such as protest, reform and celebration;

34 (7) Provide pupils with opportunities to contextualize and
35 analyze patterns of human behavior by individual persons and
36 groups who belong in one or more categories, including, without
37 limitation, perpetrator, collaborator, bystander, victim and rescuer;

38 (8) Enable pupils to understand the ramifications of
39 prejudice, racism and stereotyping;

40 (9) Preserve the memories of survivors of genocide and
41 provide opportunities for pupils to discuss and honor the cultural
42 legacies of survivors;

43 (10) Provide pupils with a foundation for examining the
44 history of discrimination in this State;



1 (11) Include the use of personal narratives and multimedia
2 primary source materials, which may include, without limitation,
3 video testimony, photographs, artwork, diary entries, letters,
4 government documents, maps and poems; and

5 (12) Explore the various mechanisms of transitional and
6 restorative justice that help humanity move forward in the aftermath
7 of genocide.

8 3. The subcommittee must be composed of:

9 (a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or his or her
10 designee;

11 (b) Three members representing the Governor's Advisory
12 Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust created pursuant to
13 NRS 233G.020;

14 (c) Three members representing nonprofit organizations that
15 have developed curriculum regarding the Holocaust or other
16 genocides for use in public schools;

17 (d) At least one member representing a school district in a
18 county whose population is 700,000 or more;

19 (e) At least one member representing a school district in a
20 county whose population is less than 700,000; and

21 (f) At least one member representing a charter school located in
22 this State.

23 4. The subcommittee created pursuant to subsection 1 shall
24 submit any recommendations for the curriculum content to provide
25 instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides developed by the
26 subcommittee pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 2 to the
27 Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools.

28 5. The subcommittee created pursuant to subsection 1 shall
29 report its findings to the State Board of Education on or before
30 April 8, 2022. The State Board of Education shall, on or before
31 August 1, 2022, submit a report to the Legislative Committee on
32 Education which includes its recommendations to carry out the
33 instruction described in subsection 1, as well as any actions the State
34 Board has taken or intends to take to include the instruction in the
35 relevant courses.

36 6. The Legislative Committee on Education shall consider the
37 report submitted by the State Board of Education and, on or before
38 December 1, 2022, prepare and submit a written report to the
39 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, for transmittal to
40 the 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature, concerning the
41 Committee's consideration of the matters described in this section
42 and any recommendations for legislation to ensure the instruction
43 described in subsection 1 is included in the curriculum for the
44 relevant courses.



1 **Sec. 6.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
2 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
3 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

4 **Sec. 7.** 1. This section and sections 5 and 6 of this act
5 become effective upon passage and approval.

6 2. Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, of this act become effective:

- 7 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
8 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
9 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
10 (b) On July 1, 2022, for all other purposes.

