#### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 555–COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNOR)

## MARCH 28, 2011

## Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing educational personnel. (BDR 34-954)

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 educational personnel; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a four-tiered performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators: requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to submit recommendations to the State Board performance concerning the evaluation eliminating the status of probationary postprobationary teachers and administrators; providing that each licensed employee of a school district is employed on a 1-year contract basis with no right to reemployment; revising the designations required of evaluations of teachers and administrators; requiring the board of trustees of a school district to base its decisions relating to the reduction in workforce and the salary, wage rates and other forms of compensation for teachers on certain factors; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

## **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires the automated system of accountability information for Nevada to track the achievement of pupils over time and to identify which teachers are assigned to individual pupils. The information is required to be considered, but must not be the sole criterion, in evaluating the performance of or taking disciplinary action against an individual teacher, paraprofessional or other employee. (NRS 386.650) Existing law also requires the board of trustees of each school district to develop a policy for the evaluation of teachers and administrators





pursuant to which the performance of an individual teacher or administrator is designated as "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory." (NRS 391.3125, 391.3127) Section 4 of this bill requires the State Board of Education to adopt regulations establishing a performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators employed by school districts and charter schools. Effective July 1, 2012, the performance evaluation system will require the evaluation of an individual teacher or administrator as "highly effective," "effective," "minimally effective" or "ineffective." Also effective July 1, 2012, section 3 of this bill requires that certain information on pupil achievement which is maintained by the automated system of accountability information for Nevada account for at least 50 percent of the evaluation of teachers and administrators. Sections 2, 6 and 7 of this bill require that the policies for the evaluations of teachers and administrators employed by school districts and charter schools comply with the performance evaluation system established by the State Board. Section 6 also provides that a licensed employee who has been employed by the school district for 3 years or less must be evaluated in writing at least three times each school year and a licensed employee who has been employed for more than 3 years must be evaluated in writing at least once each year.

Existing law sets forth certain rights and responsibilities relating to the employment of probationary and postprobationary teachers and administrators. (NRS 391.3196-391.3197) Existing law also provides that a probationary employee serves two 1-year periods as a probationary employee. If the employee receives satisfactory evaluations in the first probationary year, the second probationary year must be waived and the person is entitled to postprobationary employment with the school district. (NRS 391.3197) **Section 12** of this bill provides that commencing on July 1, 2012, each licensed employee of the school district is employed on a contract basis for a 1-year period and has no right to reemployment. **Section 22** of this bill repeals provisions governing postprobationary employees.

**Section 15** of this bill requires that the board of trustees of a school district which determines a reduction in the existing workforce of teachers in the school district is necessary must base the decision to lay off a teacher on the effectiveness of that teacher to improve the academic achievement of pupils and on the evaluations of the teacher and must not base the decision upon the seniority of that teacher.

**Section 16** of this bill prohibits the board of trustees of a school district from increasing the salary or wage rate or other compensation of a teacher based upon his or her years of service or his or her receipt of a master's degree or doctoral degree.

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

**Section 1.** NRS 386.365 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.365 1. Except as provided in subsection 3, each board of trustees in any county having a population of 100,000 or more shall give 15 days' notice of its intention to adopt, repeal or amend a policy or regulation of the board concerning any of the subjects set forth in subsection 4. The notice must:

(a) Include a description of the subject or subjects involved and must state the time and place of the meeting at which the matter will be considered by the board; and



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- 1 (b) Be mailed to the following persons from each of the schools 2 affected:
  - (1) The principal;

- (2) The president of the parent-teacher association or similar body; and
- (3) The president of the classroom teachers' organization or other collective bargaining agent.
  - → A copy of the notice and of the terms of each proposed policy or regulation, or change in a policy or regulation, must be made available for inspection by the public in the office of the superintendent of schools of the school district at least 15 days before its adoption.
  - 2. All persons interested in a proposed policy or regulation or change in a policy or regulation must be afforded a reasonable opportunity to submit data, views or arguments, orally or in writing. The board of trustees shall consider all written and oral submissions respecting the proposal or change before taking final action.
  - 3. Emergency policies or regulations may be adopted by the board upon its own finding that an emergency exists.
    - 4. This section applies to policies and regulations concerning:
    - (a) Attendance rules;
    - (b) Zoning;
    - (c) Grading;
    - (d) District staffing patterns;
    - (e) Curriculum and program;
    - (f) Pupil discipline; and
  - (g) Personnel . [, except with respect to dismissals and refusals to reemploy covered by contracts entered into as a result of the Local Government Employee Management Relations Act, as provided in NRS 391.3116.]
    - **Sec. 2.** NRS 386.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 32 386.520 1. A committee to form a charter school must 33 consist of at least three teachers, as defined in subsection 4. In 34 addition to the teachers who serve, the committee may consist of:
  - (a) Members of the general public;
  - (b) Representatives of nonprofit organizations and businesses; or
  - (c) Representatives of a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education.
  - A majority of the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) who serve on the committee must be residents of this State at the time that the application to form the charter school is submitted to the Department.
  - 2. Before a committee to form a charter school may submit an application to the board of trustees of a school district, the





Subcommittee on Charter Schools, the State Board or a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education, it must submit the application to the Department. The application must include all information prescribed by the Department by regulation and:

- (a) A written description of how the charter school will carry out the provisions of NRS 386.500 to 386.610, inclusive.
- (b) A written description of the mission and goals for the charter school. A charter school must have as its stated purpose at least one of the following goals:
  - (1) Improving the opportunities for pupils to learn;
  - (2) Encouraging the use of effective methods of teaching;
- (3) Providing an accurate measurement of the educational achievement of pupils;
  - (4) Establishing accountability of public schools;
- (5) Providing a method for public schools to measure achievement based upon the performance of the schools; or
  - (6) Creating new professional opportunities for teachers.
  - (c) The projected enrollment of pupils in the charter school.
  - (d) The proposed dates of enrollment for the charter school.
- (e) The proposed system of governance for the charter school, including, without limitation, the number of persons who will govern, the method of selecting the persons who will govern and the term of office for each person.
- (f) The method by which disputes will be resolved between the governing body of the charter school and the sponsor of the charter school.
- (g) The proposed curriculum for the charter school and, if applicable to the grade level of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, the requirements for the pupils to receive a high school diploma, including, without limitation, whether those pupils will satisfy the requirements of the school district in which the charter school is located for receipt of a high school diploma.
  - (h) The textbooks that will be used at the charter school.
- (i) The qualifications of the persons who will provide instruction at the charter school.
- (j) Except as otherwise required by NRS 386.595, the process by which the governing body of the charter school will negotiate employment contracts with the employees of the charter school.
- (k) A financial plan for the operation of the charter school. The plan must include, without limitation, procedures for the audit of the programs and finances of the charter school and guidelines for determining the financial liability if the charter school is unsuccessful.





- (1) A statement of whether the charter school will provide for the transportation of pupils to and from the charter school. If the charter school will provide transportation, the application must include the proposed plan for the transportation of pupils. If the charter school will not provide transportation, the application must include a statement that the charter school will work with the parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the charter school to develop a plan for transportation to ensure that pupils have access to transportation to and from the charter school.
- (m) The procedure for the evaluation of teachers and administrators of the charter school, [if different from the procedure prescribed in NRS 391.3125. If the procedure is different from the procedure prescribed in NRS 391.3125, the] which must comply with the performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators established by the State Board pursuant to section 4 of this act. The procedure for the evaluation of teachers of the charter school must provide the same level of protection and otherwise comply with the standards for evaluation set forth in NRS 391.3125 [...] and 391.3127 and section 4 of this act.
- (n) The time by which certain academic or educational results will be achieved.
- (o) The kind of school, as defined in subsections 1 to 4, inclusive, of NRS 388.020, for which the charter school intends to operate.
- (p) A statement of whether the charter school will enroll pupils who are in a particular category of at-risk pupils before enrolling other children who are eligible to attend the charter school pursuant to NRS 386.580 and the method for determining eligibility for enrollment in each such category of at-risk pupils served by the charter school.
- 3. The Department shall review an application to form a charter school to determine whether it is complete. If an application proposes to convert an existing public school, homeschool or other program of home study into a charter school, the Department shall deny the application. The Department shall provide written notice to the applicant of its approval or denial of the application. If the Department denies an application, the Department shall include in the written notice the reason for the denial and the deficiencies in the application. The applicant must be granted 30 days after receipt of the written notice to correct any deficiencies identified in the written notice and resubmit the application.
  - 4. As used in subsection 1, "teacher" means a person who:
- (a) Holds a current license to teach issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS; and
  - (b) Has at least 2 years of experience as an employed teacher.





→ The term does not include a person who is employed as a substitute teacher.

**Sec. 3.** NRS 386.650 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 386.650 1. The Department shall establish and maintain an automated system of accountability information for Nevada. The system must:
- (a) Have the capacity to provide and report information, including, without limitation, the results of the achievement of pupils:
- (1) In the manner required by 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq., and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and NRS 385.3469 and 385.347; and
- (2) In a separate reporting for each group of pupils identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361;
  - (b) Include a system of unique identification for each pupil:
- (1) To ensure that individual pupils may be tracked over time throughout this State; and
- (2) That, to the extent practicable, may be used for purposes of identifying a pupil for both the public schools and the Nevada System of Higher Education, if that pupil enrolls in the System after graduation from high school;
- (c) Have the capacity to provide longitudinal comparisons of the academic achievement, rate of attendance and rate of graduation of pupils over time throughout this State;
- (d) Have the capacity to perform a variety of longitudinal analyses of the results of individual pupils on assessments, including, without limitation, the results of pupils by classroom and by school;
- (e) Have the capacity to identify which teachers are assigned to individual pupils and which paraprofessionals, if any, are assigned to provide services to individual pupils;
- (f) Have the capacity to provide other information concerning schools and school districts that is not linked to individual pupils, including, without limitation, the designation of schools and school districts pursuant to NRS 385.3623 and 385.377, respectively, and an identification of which schools, if any, are persistently dangerous;
- (g) Have the capacity to access financial accountability information for each public school, including, without limitation, each charter school, for each school district and for this State as a whole; and
- (h) Be designed to improve the ability of the Department, school districts and the public schools in this State, including, without limitation, charter schools, to account for the pupils who are





enrolled in the public schools, including, without limitation, charter schools.

- → The information maintained pursuant to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) must be used for the purpose of improving the achievement of pupils and improving classroom instruction. The information must [be considered,] account for at least 50 percent of, but must not be used as the sole criterion [,] in evaluating the performance of or taking disciplinary action against an individual teacher, paraprofessional or other employee.
  - 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall:
- (a) Adopt and maintain the program prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to subsection 3 for the collection, maintenance and transfer of data from the records of individual pupils to the automated system of information, including, without limitation, the development of plans for the educational technology which is necessary to adopt and maintain the program;
- (b) Provide to the Department electronic data concerning pupils as required by the Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to subsection 3; and
- (c) Ensure that an electronic record is maintained in accordance with subsection 3 of NRS 386.655.
  - 3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall:
- (a) Prescribe a uniform program throughout this State for the collection, maintenance and transfer of data that each school district must adopt, which must include standardized software;
- (b) Prescribe the data to be collected and reported to the Department by each school district and each sponsor of a charter school pursuant to subsection 2 and by each university school for profoundly gifted pupils;
  - (c) Prescribe the format for the data;
- (d) Prescribe the date by which each school district shall report the data to the Department;
- (e) Prescribe the date by which each charter school shall report the data to the sponsor of the charter school;
- (f) Prescribe the date by which each university school for profoundly gifted pupils shall report the data to the Department;
- (g) Prescribe standardized codes for all data elements used within the automated system and all exchanges of data within the automated system, including, without limitation, data concerning:
  - (1) Individual pupils;
  - (2) Individual teachers and paraprofessionals;
  - (3) Individual schools and school districts; and
  - (4) Programs and financial information;
- (h) Provide technical assistance to each school district to ensure that the data from each public school in the school district,





including, without limitation, each charter school and university school for profoundly gifted pupils located within the school district, is compatible with the automated system of information and comparable to the data reported by other school districts; and

(i) Provide for the analysis and reporting of the data in the

automated system of information.

- 4. The Department shall establish, to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, a mechanism by which persons or entities, including, without limitation, state officers who are members of the Executive or Legislative Branch, administrators of public schools and school districts, teachers and other educational personnel, and parents and guardians, will have different types of access to the accountability information contained within the automated system to the extent that such information is necessary for the performance of a duty or to the extent that such information may be made available to the general public without posing a threat to the confidentiality of an individual pupil.
- 5. The Department may, to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, enter into an agreement with the Nevada System of Higher Education to provide access to data contained within the automated system for research purposes.
- Sec. 4. Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The State Board shall, based upon the recommendations of the Commission pursuant to subsection 2, adopt regulations establishing a performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators which incorporates multiple measures of an employee's performance and which:
- (a) Requires that an employee's overall performance is determined to be:
  - (1) Highly effective;
  - (2) Effective;
  - (3) Minimally effective; or
  - (4) Ineffective.
- (b) Includes the criteria for making each designation identified in paragraph (a).
- (c) Requires that the information maintained pursuant to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) of subsection 1 of NRS 386.650 account for at least 50 percent of the evaluation.
- (d) Ensures that a teacher or administrator is afforded a meaningful opportunity to improve his or her effectiveness through professional development that is linked to the evaluation.





- The Commission shall make recommendations to the State Board concerning the performance evaluation system.
  - **Sec. 5.** NRS 391.311 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 391.311 As used in NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - "Administrator" means any employee who holds a license as an administrator and who is employed in that capacity by a school district.
  - "Board" means the board of trustees of the school district in 2. which a licensed employee affected by NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, is employed.
  - "Demotion" means demotion of an administrator to a position of lesser rank, responsibility or pay and does not include transfer or reassignment for purposes of an administrative reorganization.
    - 4. "Immorality" means:

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- (a) An act forbidden by NRS 200.366, 200.368, 200.400, 200.508, 201.180, 201.190, 201.210, 201.220, 201.230, 201.265, 201.540, 201.560, 207.260, 453.316 to 453.336, inclusive, 453.337, 453.338, 453.3385 to 453.3405, inclusive, 453.560 or 453.562; or
- (b) An act forbidden by NRS 201.540 or any other sexual conduct or attempted sexual conduct with a pupil enrolled in an elementary or secondary school. As used in this paragraph, "sexual conduct" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 201.520.
- 5. ["Postprobationary employee" means an administrator or a teacher who has completed the probationary period as provided in NRS 391.3197 and has been given notice of reemployment.
- 6. "Probationary employee" means an administrator or a 29 teacher who is employed for the period set forth in NRS 391.3197.
  - "Superintendent" means the superintendent of a school district or a person designated by the board or superintendent to act as superintendent during the absence of the superintendent.
  - "Teacher" means a licensed employee the majority of whose working time is devoted to the rendering of direct educational service to pupils of a school district.
    - **Sec. 6.** NRS 391.3125 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that a uniform 391.3125 system be developed for objective evaluation of teachers and other licensed personnel in each school district.
  - Each board, following consultation with and involvement of elected representatives of the teachers or their designees, shall develop a policy for objective evaluations in narrative form. The policy must [set forth a means according to which an employee's overall performance may be determined to be satisfactory or unsatisfactory.] comply with the performance evaluation system





established by the State Board pursuant to section 4 of this act.

The policy may include an evaluation by the teacher, pupils, administrators or other teachers or any combination thereof. In a similar manner, counselors, librarians and other licensed personnel must be evaluated on forms developed specifically for their respective specialties. A copy of the policy adopted by the board must be filed with the Department. The primary purpose of an evaluation is to provide a format for constructive assistance. Evaluations, while not the sole criterion, must be used in the dismissal process.

- 3. [A conference and a written evaluation for a probationary employee must be concluded not later than:
- $\frac{}{}$  (a) December 1;
  - (b) February 1; and
- 15 (c) April 1,

robationary employee assigned to a school that operates all year must be evaluated at least three times during each 12 months of employment on a schedule determined by the board. A licensed employee who has been employed by the school district for 3 years or less must be evaluated in writing at least three times each school year on a schedule determined by the board of trustees of the school district. A licensed employee who has been employed by the school district for more than 3 years must be evaluated in writing at least once each school year. An administrator charged with the evaluation of a [probationary] teacher shall personally observe the performance of the teacher in the classroom for not less than a cumulative total of 60 minutes during each evaluation period, with at least one observation during that 60-minute evaluation period consisting of at least 45 consecutive minutes.

- 4. Whenever an administrator charged with the evaluation of a [probationary] licensed employee believes the employee will not be reemployed for the [second year of the probationary period or the] following school year, [following the probationary period,] the administrator shall bring the matter to the employee's attention in a written document which is separate from the evaluation not later than March 1 of the current school year. The notice must include the reasons for the potential decision not to reemploy or refer to the evaluation in which the reasons are stated. Such a notice is not required if the [probationary] licensed employee has received a letter of admonition during the current school year.
- 5. [Each postprobationary teacher must be evaluated at least once each year. An administrator charged with the evaluation of a postprobationary teacher shall personally observe the performance of the teacher in the classroom for not less than a cumulative total of





60 minutes during each evaluation period, with at least one observation during that 60 minute evaluation period consisting of at least 30 consecutive minutes.

- 6.] The evaluation of a [probationary teacher or a postprobationary] teacher must include, without limitation:
- (a) An evaluation of the classroom management skills of the teacher:
- (b) A review of the lesson plans and the work log or grade book of pupils prepared by the teacher;
- (c) An evaluation of whether the curriculum taught by the teacher is aligned with the standards of content and performance established pursuant to NRS 389.520, as applicable for the grade level taught by the teacher;
- (d) An evaluation of whether the teacher is appropriately addressing the needs of the pupils in the classroom, including, without limitation, special educational needs, cultural and ethnic diversity, the needs of pupils enrolled in advanced courses of study and the needs of pupils who are limited English proficient;
- (e) If necessary, recommendations for improvements in the performance of the teacher;
- (f) A description of the action that will be taken to assist the teacher in correcting any deficiencies reported in the evaluation; and
- (g) A statement by the administrator who evaluated the teacher indicating the amount of time that the administrator personally observed the performance of the teacher in the classroom.
- [7.] 6. The teacher must receive a copy of each evaluation not later than 15 days after the evaluation. A copy of the evaluation and the teacher's response must be permanently attached to the teacher's personnel file. Upon the request of a teacher, a reasonable effort must be made to assist the teacher to correct those deficiencies reported in the evaluation of the teacher for which the teacher requests assistance.
  - **Sec. 7.** NRS 391.3127 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.3127 1. Each board, following consultation with and involvement of elected representatives of administrative personnel or their designated representatives, shall develop an objective policy for the objective evaluation of administrators in narrative form. The policy must [set forth a means according to which an administrator's overall performance may be determined to be satisfactory or unsatisfactory.] comply with the performance evaluation system established by the State Board pursuant to section 4 of this act. The policy may include an evaluation by the administrator, superintendent, pupils or other administrators or any combination thereof. A copy of the policy adopted by the board must be filed with the Department and made available to the Commission.





- 2. Each administrator must be evaluated in writing at least once a year.
  - 3. Before a superintendent transfers or assigns an administrator to another administrative position as part of an administrative reorganization, if the transfer or reassignment is to a position of lower rank, responsibility or pay, the superintendent shall give written notice of the proposed transfer or assignment to the administrator at least 30 days before the date on which it is to be effective. The administrator may appeal the decision of the superintendent to the board by requesting a hearing in writing to the president of the board within 5 days after receiving the notice from the superintendent. The board shall hear the matter within 10 days after the president receives the request, and shall render its decision within 5 days after the hearing. The decision of the board is final.
    - **Sec. 8.** NRS 391.313 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 391.313 1. Whenever an administrator charged with supervision of a licensed employee believes it is necessary to admonish the employee for a reason that the administrator believes may lead to demotion or dismissal or may cause the employee not to be reemployed under the provisions of NRS 391.312, the administrator shall:
  - (a) [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, bring] Bring the matter to the attention of the employee involved, in writing, stating the reasons for the admonition and that it may lead to the employee's demotion, dismissal or a refusal to reemploy him or her, and make a reasonable effort to assist the employee to correct whatever appears to be the cause for the employee's potential demotion, dismissal or a potential recommendation not to reemploy him or her; and
  - (b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.314, allow reasonable time for improvement, which must not exceed 3 months for the first admonition.
- The admonition must include a description of the deficiencies of the teacher and the action that is necessary to correct those deficiencies.
- 2. An admonition issued to a licensed employee who, within the time granted for improvement, has met the standards set for the employee by the administrator who issued the admonition must be removed from the records of the employee together with all notations and indications of its having been issued. The admonition must be removed from the records of the employee not later than 3 years after it is issued.
- 3. [An administrator need not admonish an employee pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 if his or her employment will be terminated pursuant to NRS 391.3197. If by March 1 of the first or





second year of the employee's probationary period a probationary employee does not receive a written notice pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 391.3125 of a potential decision not to reemploy him or her, the employee must receive an admonition before any such decision is made.

4.] A licensed employee is subject to immediate dismissal or a refusal to reemploy according to the procedures provided in NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, without the admonition required by this section, on grounds contained in paragraphs (b), (f), (g), (h) and (p) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.312.

**Sec. 9.** NRS 391.314 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 391.314 1. If a superintendent has reason to believe that cause exists for the dismissal of a licensed employee and the superintendent is of the opinion that the immediate suspension of the employee is necessary in the best interests of the pupils in the district, the superintendent may suspend the employee without notice and without a hearing. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 391.312, a superintendent may suspend a licensed employee who has been officially charged but not yet convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude or immorality. If the charge is dismissed or if the employee is found not guilty, the employee must be reinstated with back pay, plus interest, and normal seniority. The superintendent shall notify the employee in writing of the suspension.
- 2. Within 5 days after a suspension becomes effective, the superintendent shall begin proceedings pursuant to the provisions of NRS 391.312 to [391.3196,] 391.3194, inclusive, to effect the employee's dismissal. The employee is entitled to continue to receive his or her salary and other benefits after the suspension becomes effective until the date on which the dismissal proceedings are commenced. The superintendent may recommend that an employee who has been charged with a felony or a crime involving immorality be dismissed for another ground set forth in NRS 391.312.
- 3. If sufficient grounds for dismissal do not exist, the employee must be reinstated with full compensation, plus interest.
- 4. A licensed employee who furnishes to the school district a bond or other security which is acceptable to the board as a guarantee that the employee will repay any amounts paid to him or her pursuant to this subsection as salary during a period of suspension is entitled to continue to receive his or her salary from the date on which the dismissal proceedings are commenced until the decision of the board or the report of the hearing officer, if the report is final and binding. The board shall not unreasonably refuse to accept security other than a bond. An employee who receives





salary pursuant to this subsection shall repay it if the employee is dismissed or not reemployed as a result of a decision of the board or a report of a hearing officer.

- 5. A licensed employee who is convicted of a crime which requires registration pursuant to NRS 179D.010 to 179D.550, inclusive, or is convicted of an act forbidden by NRS 200.508, 201.190, 201.265, 201.540, 201.560 or 207.260 forfeits all rights of employment from the date of his or her arrest.
- 6. A licensed employee who is convicted of any crime and who is sentenced to and serves any sentence of imprisonment forfeits all rights of employment from the date of his or her arrest or the date on which his or her employment terminated, whichever is later.
- 7. A licensed employee who is charged with a felony or a crime involving immorality or moral turpitude and who waives his or her right to a speedy trial while suspended may receive no more than 12 months of back pay and seniority upon reinstatement if the employee is found not guilty or the charges are dismissed, unless proceedings have been begun to dismiss the employee upon one of the other grounds set forth in NRS 391.312.
- 8. A superintendent may discipline a licensed employee by suspending the employee with loss of pay at any time after a hearing has been held which affords the due process provided for in this chapter. The grounds for suspension are the same as the grounds contained in NRS 391.312. An employee may be suspended more than once during the employee's contract year, but the total number of days of suspension may not exceed 20 in 1 contract year. Unless circumstances require otherwise, the suspensions must be progressively longer.

**Sec. 10.** NRS 391.317 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 391.317 1. At least 15 days before recommending to a board that it demote, dismiss or not reemploy a **[postprobationary employee, or dismiss or demote a probationary]** *licensed* employee, the superintendent shall give written notice to the employee, by registered or certified mail, of the superintendent's intention to make the recommendation.
  - 2. The notice must:
- (a) Inform the licensed employee of the grounds for the recommendation.
- (b) Inform the employee that, if a written request therefor is directed to the superintendent within 10 days after receipt of the notice, the employee is entitled to a hearing before a hearing officer.
  - (c) Refer to chapter 391 of NRS.





**Sec. 11.** NRS 391.31925 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.31925 The licensed employee or a witness at a hearing under NRS 391.311 to [391.3196,] 391.3194, inclusive, who is a person with a communications disability as defined in NRS 50.050, is entitled to the services of an interpreter at public expense in accordance with the provisions of NRS 50.050 to 50.053, inclusive. The interpreter must be appointed by the hearing officer.

**Sec. 12.** NRS 391.3197 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.3197 1. [A probationary] Commencing on July 1, 2012, each licensed employee is employed on a contract basis for [two] a

1-year [periods] period and has no right to [employment after either of the two probationary contract years.] reemployment, regardless

of the date of his or her initial hire.

- The board shall notify each [probationary] licensed employee in writing on or before May 1 of the first and second school years of the employee's probationary period, as appropriate,] each school year whether the employee is to be reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or for the next school year. [as a postprobationary employee.] The employee must advise the board in writing on or before May 10 fof the first or second year of the employee's probationary period, as appropriate, of the employee's acceptance of reemployment. If a [probationary] *licensed* employee is assigned to a school that operates all year, the board shall notify the employee in writing [, in both the first and second years of the employee's probationary period,] no later than 45 days before his or her last day of work for the year under his or her contract whether the employee is to be reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or] for the next school year. [as a postprobationary employee.] The employee must advise the board in writing within 10 days after the date of notification of his or her acceptance or rejection of reemployment for another year. Failure to advise the board of the employee's acceptance of reemployment constitutes rejection of the contract.
- 3. [A probationary employee who completes a 2-year probationary period and receives a notice of reemployment from the school district in the second year of the employee's probationary period is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment.
- 4.] If a **[probationary]** *licensed* employee receives notice pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 391.3125 not later than March 1 of a potential decision not to reemploy him or her, the employee may request a supplemental evaluation by another administrator in the school district selected by the employee and the superintendent. If a school district has five or fewer administrators, the supplemental





evaluator may be an administrator from another school district in this State. [If a probationary employee has received during the first school year of the employee's probationary period three evaluations which state that the employee's overall performance has been satisfactory, the superintendent of schools of the school district or the superintendent's designee shall waive the second year of the employee's probationary period by expressly providing in writing on the final evaluation of the employee for the first probationary year that the second year of the employee's probationary period is waived. Such an employee is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment.

5. If a probationary

**4.** If a licensed employee is notified that the employee will not be reemployed for the [second year of the employee's probationary period or the] ensuing school year, his or her employment ends on the last day of the current school year. The notice that the employee will not be reemployed must include a statement of the reasons for that decision.

[6. A new employee or a postprobationary teacher who is employed as an administrator shall be deemed to be a probationary employee for the purposes of this section and must serve a 2-year probationary period as an administrator in accordance with the provisions of this section. If the administrator does not receive an unsatisfactory evaluation during the first year of probation, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall waive the second year of the administrator's probationary period. Such an administrator is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment. If:

(a) A postprobationary teacher who is an administrator is not reemployed as an administrator after either year of his or her probationary period; and

— (b) There is a position as a teacher available for the ensuing school year in the school district in which the person is employed, → the board of trustees of the school district shall, on or before May 1, offer the person a contract as a teacher for the ensuing school year. The person may accept the contract in writing on or before May 10. If the person fails to accept the contract as a teacher, the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of a contract as a teacher.

7. An administrator who has completed his or her probationary period pursuant to subsection 6 and is thereafter promoted to the position of principal must serve an additional probationary period of 1 year in the position of principal. If the administrator serving the additional probationary period is not reemployed as a principal after the expiration of the additional probationary period, the board of





trustees of the school district in which the person is employed shall, on or before May 1, offer the person a contract for the ensuing school year for the administrative position in which the person attained postprobationary status. The person may accept the contract in writing on or before May 10. If the person fails to accept such a contract, the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of employment.

8. Before dismissal, the probationary employee is entitled to a hearing before a hearing officer which affords due process as set out in NRS 391.311 to 391.3196, inclusive.

**Sec. 13.** NRS 391.350 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.350 Any teacher or other licensed employee employed by any board for a specified time who willfully refuses or fails to fulfill his or her employment obligations after the employee has notified the board of his or her acceptance of employment under [subsection 3 of NRS 391.3196 or] subsection 2 of NRS 391.3197 or to comply with the provisions of his or her contract after it has been signed without first obtaining the written consent of the board may be found guilty of unprofessional conduct. The board shall not unreasonably withhold its consent. Any administrator who willfully secures the signature on a statement of intent to accept employment of any teacher or other licensed employee who has notified the board of another school district in this State of his or her acceptance of employment is guilty of unprofessional conduct, unless the employee has first obtained the written consent of the board to which he or she has given notice of acceptance. If the failure or refusal to comply with the provisions of the contract is the result of having subsequently executed an employment contract with another board in this State without the written consent of the board first employing him or her, the second contract is void.

- 2. Upon receiving a formal complaint from the board, substantiated by conclusive evidence of a teacher's failure or refusal under subsection 1 or that an administrator has willfully secured such a signature, the State Board may suspend or revoke the license of the teacher or administrator after notice and opportunity for a hearing have been provided pursuant to NRS 391.322 and 391.323.
- 3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall notify state agencies for education in other states of any revocation pursuant to this section.
- **Sec. 14.** Chapter 288 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 15 and 16 of this act.
  - Sec. 15. If the board of trustees of a school district determines that a reduction in the existing workforce of teachers in the school district is necessary, the decision to lay off a teacher must be based upon the effectiveness of the teacher to improve the





academic achievement of pupils and upon the evaluations of the teacher conducted pursuant to NRS 391.3125 and 391.3127 and must not be based upon the seniority of the teacher.

Sec. 16. 1. The board of trustees of a school district shall not increase the salary or wage rate or other compensation of a teacher based upon his or her years of service or his or her receipt of a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution.

2. This section does not prohibit the board of trustees of a school district from increasing the salary or wage rate or other compensation of teachers employed by the board of trustees on the basis of merit.

**Sec. 17.** NRS 288.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 288.150 1. Except as provided in subsection 4, every local government employer shall negotiate in good faith through one or more representatives of its own choosing concerning the mandatory subjects of bargaining set forth in subsection 2 with the designated representatives of the recognized employee organization, if any, for each appropriate bargaining unit among its employees. If either party so requests, agreements reached must be reduced to writing.
  - 2. The scope of mandatory bargaining is limited to:
- (a) Salary or wage rates or other forms of direct monetary compensation consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
  - (b) Sick leave.

- (c) Vacation leave.
- (d) Holidays.
- (e) Other paid or nonpaid leaves of absence.
- (f) Insurance benefits.
- 29 (g) Total hours of work required of an employee on each 30 workday or workweek.
- 31 (h) Total number of days' work required of an employee in a 32 work year.
  - (i) Discharge and disciplinary procedures.
  - (j) Recognition clause.
  - (k) The method used to classify employees in the bargaining unit.
  - (1) Deduction of dues for the recognized employee organization.
  - (m) Protection of employees in the bargaining unit from discrimination because of participation in recognized employee organizations consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
  - (n) No-strike provisions consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
  - (o) Grievance and arbitration procedures for resolution of disputes relating to interpretation or application of collective bargaining agreements.





- (p) General savings clauses.
- (q) Duration of collective bargaining agreements.
- (r) Safety of the employee.

- (s) Teacher preparation time.
- (t) Materials and supplies for classrooms.
- (u) The policies for the transfer and reassignment of teachers.
- (v) Procedures for reduction in workforce [...] consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
- 3. Those subject matters which are not within the scope of mandatory bargaining and which are reserved to the local government employer without negotiation include:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (u) of subsection 2, the right to hire, direct, assign or transfer an employee, but excluding the right to assign or transfer an employee as a form of discipline.
- (b) The right to reduce in force or lay off any employee because of lack of work or lack of money, subject to paragraph (v) of subsection 2.
  - (c) The right to determine:
- (1) Appropriate staffing levels and work performance standards, except for safety considerations;
- (2) The content of the workday, including without limitation workload factors, except for safety considerations;
- (3) The quality and quantity of services to be offered to the public; and
  - (4) The means and methods of offering those services.
  - (d) Safety of the public.
- 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter, a local government employer is entitled to take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out its responsibilities in situations of emergency such as a riot, military action, natural disaster or civil disorder. Those actions may include the suspension of any collective bargaining agreement for the duration of the emergency. Any action taken under the provisions of this subsection must not be construed as a failure to negotiate in good faith.
- 5. The provisions of this chapter, including without limitation the provisions of this section, recognize and declare the ultimate right and responsibility of the local government employer to manage its operation in the most efficient manner consistent with the best interests of all its citizens, its taxpayers and its employees.
- 6. This section does not preclude, but this chapter does not require the local government employer to negotiate subject matters enumerated in subsection 3 which are outside the scope of mandatory bargaining. The local government employer shall discuss





subject matters outside the scope of mandatory bargaining but it is not required to negotiate those matters.

7. Contract provisions presently existing in signed and ratified agreements as of May 15, 1975, at 12 p.m. remain negotiable.

**Sec. 18.** NRS 288.195 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.195 Whenever an employee organization enters into negotiations with a local government employer, pursuant to NRS 288.140 to 288.220, inclusive, *and sections 15 and 16 of this act*, such employee organization may be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Nevada.

**Sec. 19.** NRS 288.217 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.217 1. The provisions of this section govern negotiations between school districts and employee organizations representing teachers and educational support personnel.

- 2. If the parties to a negotiation pursuant to this section have failed to reach an agreement after at least four sessions of negotiation, either party may declare the negotiations to be at an impasse and, after 5 days' written notice is given to the other party, submit the issues remaining in dispute to an arbitrator. The arbitrator must be selected in the manner provided in subsection 2 of NRS 288.200 and has the powers provided for fact finders in NRS 288.210.
- 3. The arbitrator shall, within 30 days after the arbitrator is selected, and after 7 days' written notice is given to the parties, hold a hearing to receive information concerning the dispute. The hearing must be held in the county in which the school district is located and the arbitrator shall arrange for a full and complete record of the hearing.
- 4. The parties to the dispute shall each pay one-half of the costs of the arbitration.
- 5. A determination of the financial ability of a school district must be based on:
- (a) All existing available revenues as established by the school district and within the limitations set forth in NRS 354.6241, with due regard for the obligation of the school district to provide an education to the children residing within the district.
- (b) Consideration of funding for the current year being negotiated. [If the parties mutually agree to arbitrate a multi-year contract the arbitrator must consider the ability to pay over the life of the contract being negotiated or arbitrated.]
- → Once the arbitrator has determined in accordance with this subsection that there is a current financial ability to grant monetary benefits, the arbitrator shall consider, to the extent appropriate, compensation of other governmental employees, both in and out of this State.





- 6. At the recommendation of the arbitrator, the parties may, before the submission of a final offer, enter into negotiations. If the negotiations are begun, the arbitrator may adjourn the hearing for a period of 3 weeks. If an agreement is reached, it must be submitted to the arbitrator, who shall certify it as final and binding.
- 7. If the parties do not enter into negotiations or do not agree within 30 days after the hearing held pursuant to subsection 3, each of the parties shall submit a single written statement containing its final offer for each of the unresolved issues.
- 8. The arbitrator shall, within 10 days after the final offers are submitted, render a decision on the basis of the criteria set forth in NRS 288.200. The arbitrator shall accept one of the written statements and shall report the decision to the parties. The decision of the arbitrator is final and binding on the parties. Any award of the arbitrator is retroactive to the expiration date of the last contract between the parties.
  - 9. The decision of the arbitrator must include a statement:
- (a) Giving the arbitrator's reason for accepting the final offer that is the basis of the arbitrator's award; and
- (b) Specifying the arbitrator's estimate of the total cost of the award.
- 10. Within 45 days after the receipt of the decision from the arbitrator, the board of trustees of the school district shall hold a public meeting in accordance with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS. The meeting must include a discussion of:
  - (a) The issues submitted pursuant to subsection 2;
  - (b) The statement of the arbitrator pursuant to subsection 9; and
- (c) The overall fiscal impact of the decision which must not include a discussion of the details of the decision.
- → The arbitrator must not be asked to discuss the decision during the meeting.
- 11. The superintendent of the school district shall report to the board of trustees the fiscal impact of the decision. The report must include, without limitation, an analysis of the impact of the decision on compensation and reimbursement, funding, benefits, hours, working conditions or other terms and conditions of employment.
  - 12. As used in this section:
- (a) "Educational support personnel" means all classified employees of a school district, other than teachers, who are represented by an employee organization.
- (b) "Teacher" means an employee of a school district who is licensed to teach in this State and who is represented by an employee organization.
- Sec. 20. 1. The Commission on Professional Standards in Education shall, not later than December 31, 2011, submit to the





State Board of Education the recommendations of the Commission for the adoption of regulations establishing a performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators pursuant to section 4 of this act.

- 2. On or before June 30, 2012, the State Board of Education shall, based upon the recommendations of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education, adopt regulations establishing a performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators that complies with the provisions of section 4 of this act.
- **Sec. 21.** Each school district and charter school in this State shall, not later than the 2012-2013 school year, implement a performance evaluation policy for teachers and administrators that complies with the performance evaluation system established by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 4 of this act.
- **Sec. 22.** NRS 391.3116, 391.3196 and 391.31965 are hereby repealed.
- 17 **Sec. 23.** 1. This section and sections 4 and 14 to 21, 18 inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2011.
- 2. Sections 1, 2, 3, 5 to 13, inclusive, and 22 of this act become effective on July 1, 2012.

#### TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

391.3116 Contract negotiated by collective bargaining may supersede provisions of NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive. The provisions of NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, do not apply to a teacher, administrator, or other licensed employee who has entered into a contract with the board negotiated pursuant to chapter 288 of NRS if the contract contains separate provisions relating to the board's right to dismiss or refuse to reemploy the employee or demote an administrator.

391.3196 Reemployment of postprobationary employees: Notice of reemployment or delivery of contract; acceptance of employment.

1. On or before May 1 of each year, the board shall notify postprobationary employees in their employ, in writing, by certified mail or by delivery of the employee's contract, concerning their reemployment for the ensuing year. If the board, or the person designated by it, fails to notify a postprobationary employee who has been employed by a school district of the employee's status for the ensuing year, the employee shall be deemed to be reemployed



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for the ensuing year under the same terms and conditions as he or she is employed for the current year.

- 2. This section does not apply to any licensed employee who has been recommended to be demoted, dismissed or not reemployed if proceedings have commenced and no final decision has been made by the board. A licensed employee may be demoted or dismissed for grounds set forth in NRS 391.312 after the employee has been notified that he or she is to be reemployed for the ensuing year.
- 3. Any licensed employee who is reemployed pursuant to subsection 1 shall, by May 10, notify the board in writing of the employee's acceptance of employment. Failure on the part of the employee to notify the board of his or her acceptance within the specified time is conclusive evidence of the employee's rejection of the contract.
- If the licensed employees are represented by a recognized employee organization and negotiation has been commenced pursuant to NRS 288.180, then the provisions of subsections 1, 2 and 3 do not apply except in the case of a demotion, dismissal or decision not to reemploy an employee. Before May 10 of each year, the employees shall notify the board in writing, on forms provided by the board, of their acceptance of reemployment. Any agreement negotiated by the recognized employee organization and the board becomes a part of the contract of employment between the board and the employee. The board shall mail contracts, by certified mail with return receipts requested, to each employee to be reemployed at the last known address of the employee or shall deliver the contract in person to each employee, obtaining a receipt therefor. Failure on the part of the employee to notify the board of the employee's acceptance within 10 days after receipt of the contract is conclusive evidence of the employee's rejection of the contract.
- 391.31965 Certain postprobationary employees subsequently employed by another school district or charter school not required to serve probationary period; exception. Except as otherwise provided in this section, if a postprobationary employee of a school district or charter school in this state:
  - 1. Voluntarily leaves his or her employment; and
- 2. Is, within 5 years after the date on which the employee left that employment, employed by any school district or charter school in this state in a position that is comparable to the position in which the employee attained postprobationary status,
- → he or she must be allowed to continue as a postprobationary employee and must not be required to serve the probationary period required by subsection 1 of NRS 391.3197. This section does not apply to a postprobationary employee who voluntarily leaves his or





her employment during the pendency of a proceeding for the suspension, demotion, dismissal or refusal to reemploy the postprobationary employee.





