SENATE BILL NO. 212–SENATORS STONE, BUCK, KRASNER, SEEVERS GANSERT, HANSEN; GOICOECHEA, HAMMOND AND TITUS

MARCH 2, 2023

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN DICKMAN, HARDY; HANSEN AND YUREK

## Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Authorizes the reimbursement of teachers for certain out-of-pocket expenses. (BDR 34-585)

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

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

AN ACT relating to education; creating the Teachers' School Supplies Assistance Account; providing for an annual allocation from the Account to each school district and charter school for distribution to teachers for the purchase of certain school supplies; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

## Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Before July 1, 2021, existing law established the Teachers' School Supplies Assistance Account in the State General Fund and authorized the money in the Account to be used to reimburse a teacher for out-of-pocket expenses incurred for necessary school supplies for pupils he or she instructs or to purchase such supplies directly in certain other ways. (former NRS 387.1253, 387.1255, 387.1257) The Account was abolished on July 1, 2021, which had the effect of eliminating the program that allowed for a teacher to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred for such supplies. (Section 80 of Senate Bill No. 543, chapter 624, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 4253) This bill recreates the Account and authorizes similar uses of the money in the Account.

**Section 3** of this bill creates the Teachers' School Supplies Assistance Account in the State General Fund. **Section 4** of this bill requires the Department of Education to determine the amount of money available in the Account and annually apportion the money available in the Account among the school districts and charter schools in this State, based on the number of teachers employed by each school district or charter school, as applicable, at \$400 per teacher.





Section 4 also requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to establish a special revenue fund and deposit the money it receives from the Account in that fund. Section 4 further requires the money in the special revenue fund to be: (1) disbursed to teachers through various methods for the direct purchase of certain school supplies; or (2) used to reimburse teachers for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with directly purchasing such supplies. Section 4 also requires the board of trustees of each school district or the governing body of a charter school, as applicable, to transfer any balance remaining in the special revenue fund that has not been committed for expenditure to the Account at the end of each fiscal year.
Section 5 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to determine the manner in which to distribute the money received from the Account to the teachers, including whether the teachers will be authorized to use a credit card, debit card or purchasing card

Section 5 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to determine the manner in which to distribute the money received from the Account to the teachers, including whether the teachers will be authorized to use a credit card, debit card or purchasing card 31 connected to the fund, or if they will be required to submit a claim for 32 33 34 reimbursement. Section 5 also requires a teacher who receives any money from the fund to repay to the fund, by the last day of the fiscal year, any amount of money that: (1) was not used; (2) was used to purchase something other than school 35 supplies for the pupils the teacher instructs; and (3) exceeds the maximum amount 36 authorized for each teacher in any fiscal year in section 4. Section 5 further 37 requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each 38 charter school to adopt a policy that determines the manner in which to account for 39 disbursements or reimbursements from the fund.

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

1 Section 1. Chapter 387 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this 3 act.

4 Sec. 2. As used in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, 5 "teacher" means a licensed employee of a school district who 6 devotes the majority of his or her working time to the rendering of 7 direct educational service to pupils, except that the term does not 8 include a substitute teacher.

9 Sec. 3. 1. The Teachers' School Supplies Assistance 10 Account is hereby created in the State General Fund. The 11 Department shall administer the Account.

12 2. The money in the Account must be invested as other money 13 of the State is invested. All interest and income earned on the 14 money in the Account must be credited to the Account.

15 3. The money in the Account must be used only for the 16 purposes specified in section 4 of this act.

Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal
year does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in
the Account must be carried forward.

20 5. The Department may accept gifts, grants, bequests and 21 donations from any source for deposit in the Account.





Sec. 4. 1. On or before September 1 of each year, the 1 2 Department shall determine the amount of money that is available in the Teachers' School Supplies Assistance Account created by 3 section 3 of this act for distribution among all of the school 4 5 districts and charter schools in this State for that fiscal year. Any 6 such distribution must be provided to each school district and 7 charter school based on the number of teachers employed by the 8 school district or charter school, as applicable. To the extent that money is available, the Department shall establish the amount of 9 disbursement or reimbursement for each teacher at \$400 per fiscal 10 11 vear.

12 2. The board of trustees of each school district and the 13 governing body of each charter school shall establish a special 14 revenue fund and direct that the money it receives pursuant to subsection 1 be deposited in that fund. Money in the special 15 16 revenue fund must not be commingled with money from other 17 sources. The board of trustees or the governing body, as applicable, shall disburse money in the special revenue fund to 18 teachers in accordance with section 5 of this act. 19

20 3. The money in the special revenue fund must be used only 21 to:

(a) Pay for a purchase of necessary school supplies for the
pupils the teacher instructs using a purchasing card or debit card
issued for that purpose to the teacher by a school;

(b) Pay the balance owed on a credit card issued to a teacher
by a school to pay for a purchase of necessary school supplies for
the pupils the teacher instructs;

28 (c) Deposit money directly into the account of a teacher 29 maintained at a financial institution to pay for a purchase of 30 necessary school supplies for the pupils the teacher instructs;

(d) Provide a check written to a teacher to pay for a purchase
 of necessary school supplies for the pupils the teacher instructs; or
 (e) Reimburse teachers for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in
 connection with purchasing necessary school supplies for the

pupils they instruct.
4. If there is money remaining in the special revenue fund

37 because one or more teachers at the school did not use the amount established for his or her disbursement or reimbursement 38 pursuant to subsection 1, the board of trustees of a school district 39 40 or the governing body of a charter school, as applicable, shall allow a teacher who has used the entire amount of his or her 41 42 disbursement or reimbursement established pursuant to subsection 43 1 to request an additional disbursement or reimbursement from the special revenue fund. The combined total amount of a 44 45 disbursement or reimbursement established pursuant to subsection





1 *1 and an additional disbursement or reimbursement requested* 2 *pursuant to this subsection for each teacher must not exceed* \$800 3 *per fiscal year.* 

4 5. The board of trustees or governing body of a charter 5 school, as applicable, shall not use money in the special revenue 6 fund to pay any administrative costs.

7 6. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund at the 8 end of a fiscal year reverts to the Teachers' School Supplies 9 Assistance Account.

10 Sec. 5. 1. The board of trustees of each school district and 11 the governing body of each charter school that receives money 12 pursuant to subsection 1 of section 4 of this act shall determine the 13 manner in which to distribute the money to teachers in the school 14 district or charter school, as applicable, including, without 15 limitation, whether to:

16 (a) Authorize a school to allow teachers to use a credit card, 17 purchasing card or debit card which is issued to the teacher by the 18 district or the school, as applicable, and which is connected to the 19 special revenue fund established pursuant to subsection 2 of 20 section 4 of this act to directly purchase supplies for the pupils the 21 teacher instructs;

(b) Require a teacher to submit a claim for reimbursement for
 out-of-pocket expenses for such supplies from the special revenue
 fund; or

(c) Authorize any other manner of providing money to a
teacher described in subsection 3 of section 4 of this act to pay for
such supplies.

28 2. To the extent that money is available in the special revenue 29 fund, the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable, may 30 reimburse a teacher, or the teacher may use, up to the maximum 31 amount for each teacher determined by the Department pursuant 32 to section 4 of this act for the fiscal year.

33 3. If the board of trustees of a school district or the governing 34 body of a charter school, as applicable, requires a teacher to 35 submit a claim for reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses 36 pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, the teacher must 37 submit the claim not later than 2 weeks after the last day of the 38 school year.

The board of trustees of a school district may enter into an 39 4. 40 agreement with the recognized employee organization representing licensed educational personnel within the school 41 42 district for the purpose of obtaining the assistance of the employee 43 organization in administering the reimbursement of teachers 44 pursuant to this section.





5. A teacher who receives money pursuant to subsection 1 1 2 shall repay to the special revenue fund, by not later than the last day of the fiscal year in which the money was received: 3 4

(a) Any amount that was not used;

5 (b) Any amount that was used to purchase something other than school supplies for the pupils the teacher instructs; and 6

7 (c) Any amount that exceeds the maximum amount authorized 8 pursuant to section 4 of this act in any fiscal year.

The board of trustees of each school district and the 9 6. governing body of each charter school shall adopt a policy that 10 11 establishes the manner in which to account for reimbursements or disbursements of money, as applicable, through each form of 12 payment authorized for use by the board of trustees or the 13 governing body, as applicable. The policy may include, without 14 limitation, a requirement to submit receipts for any purchase of 15 supplies with money received pursuant to subsection 1. 16 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023. 17

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