SENATE BILL NO. 240-SENATOR HARDY

FEBRUARY 27, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Eliminates certain training required of teachers. (BDR 34-262)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to education; creating an exception to the requirement that students in the Nevada System of Higher Education complete instruction in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada for students who are enrolled in a course of study or training to become a teacher; repealing provisions requiring licensed teachers to complete training in the laws of this State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada Constitution relating to schools; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires that students in the Nevada System of Higher Education are given instruction on the essentials of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada before receiving a certificate or diploma of graduation. (NRS 396.500) **Section 1** of this bill creates an exception to that requirement for students who are enrolled in a course of study or training to become a licensed teacher.

Existing law requires licensed teachers within this State to complete training in the laws of this State and the Nevada Constitution relating to schools within 1 year after being issued a license to teach and being hired by a school district. (NRS 391.091) **Section 2** of this bill repeals these requirements.





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

- **Section 1.** NRS 396.500 is hereby amended to read as follows: 396.500 1. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:*
- (a) Instruction within the System must be given in the essentials of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada, including the origin and history of the Constitutions and the study of and devotion to American institutions and ideals.
- [2.] (b) The instruction required in [subsection 1] paragraph (a) must be given during at least 1 year of the college grades.
- [3.] (c) The System shall not issue a certificate or diploma of graduation to a student who has not passed a satisfactory examination upon the Constitutions.
- 2. A student who is enrolled in the System in a course of study or training specifically designed to qualify a person to be a licensed teacher is not subject to the provisions of subsection 1.
 - Sec. 2. NRS 391.091 is hereby repealed.
 - **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

- 391.091 Licensed teachers to complete training in certain state laws and provisions of Nevada's Constitution; establishment of contents of training and standards of proficiency.
- 1. A licensed teacher, except a teacher who is licensed only as a substitute teacher, must complete training in the laws of this State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada Constitution relating to schools within 1 year after being issued a license to teach and being initially hired by the board of trustees of a school district.
 - 2. The Commission shall:
- (a) Establish by regulation the required contents of the training required by subsection 1;
- (b) Establish by regulation the standard of proficiency required for a teacher to receive credit for completing the training required by subsection 1, which may include, without limitation, an examination to test the proficiency of a teacher in the laws of this State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada Constitution relating to schools; and



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- (c) At least once each biennium, review the contents of the training required by subsection 1 and, if necessary, revise the content of the training.
 - 3. The training required by subsection 1:
 - (a) Must be tailored to the professional needs of teachers.
- (b) May be conducted in person or interactively through the use of communications technology by the school district that employs a teacher or by a vendor approved by such a school district.





