

Senate Bill No. 303—Senators Woodhouse, Ford, Manendo, Denis,  
Parks; Cancela, Harris, Ratti, Segerblom and Spearman

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Carlton; and Fumo

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Department of Education to generate and carry out a plan for auditing the assessments conducted to monitor the performance of pupils and schools in the public school system in this State; requiring the plan to comply with the grant application process set forth in applicable federal law; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

In December 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act took effect. (Pub. L. No. 114-95, 129 Stat. 1801) The Act: (1) revises the educational assessment standards the State must meet to receive federal funds for pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State; (2) revises the reporting requirements for the State when requesting such funds; (3) encourages the State to improve and streamline the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils and schools in the public education system; and (4) authorizes the appropriation of money for federal grants to assist the State with such an audit to encourage the realignment of State assessments with the current federal requirements.

This bill requires the Department of Education to create and carry out a plan for auditing the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils and schools for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in the public school system in this State. **Section 1** of this bill requires the plan to: (1) include a plan to improve and streamline the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils and schools in the public school system in this State; and (2) meet the prerequisites necessary for acquiring a grant from the Federal Government as set forth in the Every Student Succeeds Act. **Section 1** also requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to collect and provide any information requested by the Department which the Department determines is necessary to develop and carry out the plan and the audit.

**Section 2** of this bill requires the Department to submit the plan to the United States Secretary of Education to apply for a grant of money pursuant to the provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act. (20 U.S.C. § 6362) **Section 3** of this bill requires the Department to submit the plan and the results of the audit to the State Board of Education, the Legislative Committee on Education and the Interim Finance Committee not later than December 1, 2017.

**Section 3.5** of this bill makes an appropriation from the State General Fund to the Department of Education to develop and carry out the plan to audit the assessment tools and examinations required by **section 1**.



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

**Section 1.** 1. The Department of Education shall develop and carry out a plan to audit the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils and schools for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in the public schools system in this State.

2. The plan must:

(a) Include a plan to improve and streamline the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils and schools for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in the public school system in this State in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 6362(e)(3)(D). Such a plan must be developed using data collected on or after December 10, 2015, and include, without limitation:

(1) An examination of models from other states that are streamlining the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils based on the requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. §§ 6361, 6362 and 6363; and

(2) Recommendations for improving or streamlining the assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of pupils based on the audit conducted pursuant to subsection 1 and the examination conducted pursuant to subparagraph (1).

(b) Comply with the requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. §§ 6361, 6362 and 6363, which make available a grant for carrying out such an audit and other related activities under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Public Law No. 114-95.

3. The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall collect and provide any information requested by the Department which it determines is necessary to develop and carry out the plan and the audit.

**Sec. 2.** Upon completion of the plan developed pursuant to section 1 of this act, the Department of Education shall submit a copy of the plan to the United States Secretary of Education and take such actions as are necessary to apply for a grant of money pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 6362.

**Sec. 3.** Not later than December 1, 2017, the Department of Education shall submit a copy of the plan developed pursuant to section 1 of this act and the results of the audit to:

1. The State Board of Education;



2. The Legislative Committee on Education, created by NRS 218E.605; and

3. The Interim Finance Committee.

**Sec. 3.5.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$100,000 to develop and carry out the plan to audit the assessment tools and examinations required by section 1 of this act.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2019, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 20, 2019, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 20, 2019.

**Sec. 4.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.



