
SENATE BILL NO. 347—SENATORS WOODHOUSE, FORD, SPEARMAN,
DENIS, PARKS; ATKINSON, KIHUEN, MANENDO,
SEGERBLOM AND SMITH

MARCH 16, 2015

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes an appropriation to enable junior high schools and middle schools that are low performing academically to provide programs and services to certain pupils. (BDR S-219)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT making an appropriation for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Fiscal Year 2016-2017 for distribution to junior high schools and middle schools that are low performing academically; requiring schools that receive an allocation of such money to use the money to offer certain programs and services to certain pupils; requiring Clark and Washoe County School Districts and the Department of Education to prepare an annual report; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Senate Bill No. 504 (S.B. 504), enacted during the 77th Session of the Nevada
2 Legislature, appropriated money for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and Fiscal Year 2014-
3 2015 for distribution to elementary schools that have a high percentage of pupils
4 who are limited English proficient and are low performing academically. S.B. 504
5 required the schools that received an allocation of such money to use the money to
6 offer certain programs and services to pupils who are limited English proficient.
7 S.B. 504 also required the Clark and Washoe County School Districts and the
8 Department of Education to prepare an annual report and submit the report to the
9 Legislative Committee on Education during the interim or the Legislature during a
10 year in which there is a regular legislative session. This bill similarly appropriates
11 money for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Fiscal Year 2016-2017 for distribution to
12 junior high schools and middle schools that are low performing academically.



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13 This bill requires a school that receives an allocation of such money to use the
14 money to: (1) provide for an extended school day; (2) provide, free of a charge, a
15 summer academy or an intersession academy if the junior high school or middle
16 school does not operate on a traditional school calendar; (3) provide certain
17 professional development for teachers and other educational personnel; and (4) hire
18 an implementation specialist to train teachers regarding how to conduct small-
19 group reading instruction for pupils in junior high school and middle school. This
20 bill also requires the Clark and Washoe County School Districts and the
21 Department of Education to prepare an annual report and submit the report to the
22 Legislative Committee on Education during the interim or the Legislature during a
23 year in which there is a regular legislative session.

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

1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
2 General Fund to the Account for Programs for Innovation and the
3 Prevention of Remediation created by NRS 385.379 the following
4 sums:

- 5 (a) For the Fiscal Year 2015-2016..... \$25,000,000
- 6 (b) For the Fiscal Year 2016-2017..... \$25,000,000

7 2. The Department of Education shall transfer from the
8 Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of
9 Remediation to the school districts specified in this subsection the
10 following sums for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Fiscal Year 2016-
11 2017:

12	13	14	15
	<u>School District:</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
14	Clark County School District	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
15	Washoe County School District	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000

16 3. The Board of Trustees of the Clark County School District
17 and the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District
18 shall identify the lowest performing junior high schools and middle
19 schools within the school district that have received an annual rating
20 as one of the two lowest ratings possible indicating
21 underperformance of a public school, as determined by the
22 Department pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for
23 public schools.

24 4. The Clark County School District and the Washoe County
25 School District shall allocate the money transferred pursuant to
26 subsection 2 to each school identified pursuant to subsection 3 to:

- 27 (a) Provide for an extended school day;
- 28 (b) Provide, free of charge, a summer academy or an
29 intersession academy if the junior high school or middle school does
30 not operate on a traditional school calendar;



1 (c) Provide professional development for teachers and other
2 educational personnel of the school regarding effective instructional
3 practices and strategies for pupils who are limited English proficient
4 or who do not meet minimum standards of academic proficiency on
5 a criterion-referenced examination in English or mathematics
6 administered pursuant to NRS 389.550; and

7 (d) Hire an implementation specialist to train teachers regarding
8 how to conduct small-group reading instruction for pupils in junior
9 high school and middle school.

10 5. A school that receives an allocation of money pursuant to
11 subsection 4 shall offer each of the programs and services
12 prescribed in paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of that subsection so
13 that the school may offer a comprehensive package of programs and
14 services for pupils who are limited English proficient or who do not
15 meet minimum standards of academic proficiency on a criterion-
16 referenced examination in English or mathematics administered
17 pursuant to NRS 389.550. A school shall not use the money for any
18 other purpose.

19 6. On or before August 15, 2015, the Clark County School
20 District and the Washoe County School District shall provide a
21 report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
22 transmittal to the Interim Finance Committee, which must include
23 the schools identified by the school district pursuant to subsection 3
24 and the plan of each such school for carrying out the programs and
25 services prescribed by paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of
26 subsection 4.

27 7. From the appropriation made by subsection 1, the
28 Department of Education shall use not more than \$1,000,000 in
29 Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and \$1,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 to
30 provide grants of money to the State Public Charter School
31 Authority and the school districts, other than the Clark County
32 School District or the Washoe County School District. The board of
33 trustees of a school district and the State Public Charter School
34 Authority may submit an application to the Department on a form
35 prescribed by the Department that includes, without limitation:

36 (a) The number of junior high school and middle school pupils
37 in the school district and charter schools, as applicable, who are
38 limited English proficient or eligible for designation as limited
39 English proficient;

40 (b) The number of junior high school and middle school pupils
41 in the school district and charter schools, as applicable, who do not
42 meet minimum standards of academic proficiency on a criterion-
43 referenced examination in English or mathematics administered
44 pursuant to NRS 389.550;



1 (c) A description of the programs and services the school district
2 or charter schools, as applicable, will provide with a grant of money,
3 which may include, without limitation:

4 (1) The provision of an extended school day;

5 (2) The provision of a summer academy or an intersession
6 academy if the junior high school, middle school or charter school
7 does not operate on a traditional school calendar;

8 (3) Professional development for teachers and other
9 educational personnel regarding effective instructional practices and
10 strategies for pupils who are limited English proficient or who do
11 not meet minimum standards of academic proficiency on a criterion-
12 referenced examination in English language arts or mathematics
13 administered pursuant to NRS 389.550; or

14 (4) Hiring an implementation specialist to train teachers
15 regarding how to conduct small-group reading instruction for pupils
16 in junior high school and middle school.

17 8. The Department of Education shall distribute the money
18 appropriated by subsection 1 to school districts and the State Public
19 Charter School Authority that submit an application pursuant to
20 subsection 7 based upon the number of junior high school and
21 middle school pupils enrolled in each such school district or charter
22 school, as applicable, who are limited English proficient, eligible for
23 designation as limited English proficient or do not meet minimum
24 standards of academic proficiency on a criterion-referenced
25 examination in English or mathematics administered pursuant to
26 NRS 389.550, and not on a competitive basis. If a school district or
27 the State Public Charter School Authority receives a grant of money
28 pursuant to this subsection, the school district or State Public
29 Charter School Authority shall provide a report to the Department in
30 the form prescribed by the Department with the information
31 required for the Department's report pursuant to subsection 9.

32 9. The Clark County School District, the Washoe County
33 School District and the Department of Education shall each prepare
34 reports for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Fiscal Year 2016-2017 that
35 include, without limitation:

36 (a) An identification of the schools that received an allocation of
37 money by the school district or a grant of money from the
38 Department, as applicable;

39 (b) The amount of money which each school received;

40 (c) A description of the programs or services for which the
41 money was used by each school;

42 (d) The number of pupils who participated in a program or
43 received services;

44 (e) The average per-pupil expenditure per program or service
45 that was funded;



1 (f) An evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs or
2 services, including, without limitation, data regarding the academic
3 and linguistic achievement and proficiency of pupils who
4 participated in a program or received services; and

5 (g) Any recommendations for legislation, including, without
6 limitation, for the continuation or expansion of programs and
7 services that are identified as effective in improving the academic
8 and linguistic achievement and proficiency of children who are
9 limited English proficient or who do not meet minimum standards
10 of academic proficiency on a criterion-referenced examination in
11 English or mathematics administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.

12 10. The reports prepared pursuant to subsection 9 must be
13 submitted:

14 (a) For Fiscal Year 2015-2016, on or before June 15, 2016, to
15 the Legislative Committee on Education.

16 (b) For Fiscal Year 2016-2017, on or before February 1, 2017,
17 to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to
18 the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

19 11. The sums appropriated by subsection 1:

20 (a) Must be accounted for separately from any other money
21 received by school districts of this State and used only for the
22 purposes specified in this section.

23 (b) May not be used to settle or arbitrate disputes between a
24 recognized organization representing employees of a school district
25 and the school district, or to settle any negotiations.

26 (c) May not be used to adjust the district-wide schedules of
27 salaries and benefits of the employees of a school district.

28 12. Upon request of the Legislative Commission, the Clark
29 County School District and the Washoe County School District shall
30 make available to the Legislative Auditor any of the books,
31 accounts, claims, reports, vouchers or other records of information,
32 confidential or otherwise, regardless of their form or location, that
33 the Legislative Auditor deems necessary to conduct an audit of the
34 use of the money transferred pursuant to subsection 2.

35 13. Any remaining balance of the transfers made by subsection
36 2 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 must be added to the money transferred
37 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and may be expended as that money is
38 expended. Any remaining balance of the transfers made by
39 subsection 2 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, including any money added
40 from the previous fiscal year, must not be committed for
41 expenditure after June 30, 2017, and must be reverted to the State
42 General Fund on or before September 15, 2017.

43 14. Any remaining balance of the allocations made by
44 subsection 7 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 must be added to the
45 allocations for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and may be expended as that



1 money is expended. Any remaining balance of the allocations made
2 by subsection 7 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, including any money
3 added from the previous fiscal year, must not be committed for
4 expenditure after June 30, 2017, and must be reverted to the State
5 General Fund on or before September 15, 2017.

6 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

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