SENATE BILL NO. 445—SENATORS SETTELMEYER, HAMMOND, HARDY; GOICOECHEA AND PICKARD

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-979)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 1) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to education; establishing a minimum salary for teachers in this State; establishing a program to award grants to reimburse the educational expenses of certain teachers; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes standards for determining the salaries of teachers and other school employees. (NRS 391.160-391.169) **Section 1** of this bill requires, to the extent that money is available, the board of trustees of a school district to pay a salary of not less than \$45,000 per year to each teacher employed full-time by the district.

Existing law establishes the Teach Nevada Scholarship Program to award scholarships to students who intend to complete and are enrolled in a program that: (1) upon completion, makes a student eligible to obtain a license to teach kindergarten, any grade from grades I through 12 or in the subject area of special education in this State; or (2) allows a student to specialize in the subject area of early childhood education. (NRS 391A.550-391A.590) Section 2 of this bill provides for the award of grants of not more than \$5,000, to the extent that money is available, to reimburse the educational expenses for similar programs incurred by teachers who relocate from another jurisdiction or residents of this State who wish to teach and agree to teach at a public or private school in this State for at least 5 years. Section 2 provides for a recipient to receive a portion of the grant immediately and the remainder of the grant after completing his or her fifth year teaching at a public or private school in this State.



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

- **Section 1.** NRS 391.160 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.160 *I*. The salaries of teachers and other employees must be determined by the character of the service required as described in NRS 391.161 to 391.169, inclusive. A school district shall not discriminate between male and female employees in the matter of salary.
- 2. To the extent that money is available for that purpose, the board of trustees of each school district shall pay a salary of not less than \$45,000 per year to each teacher employed full-time by the district.
- **Sec. 2.** Chapter 391A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The State Board shall establish by regulation a program to award grants of not more than \$5,000, to the extent that money is available for that purpose, to:
- (a) Teachers who relocate from another state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to teach in this State; or
 - (b) Residents of this State who wish to teach in this State.
- 2. A grant awarded by the program must be used to reimburse expenses incurred by the recipient for an educational program that, upon completion, makes a student eligible to obtain a license to teach early childhood education, kindergarten, any grade from grades 1 through 12 or in the subject area of special education in this State, including, without limitation, such a program that the recipient completed before applying for the grant.
 - 3. The regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 1 must:
- (a) Require the recipient of a grant to receive a grade of B or higher in all courses that are part of the educational program described in subsection 2.
 - (b) Require the recipient of a grant to:
- (1) Attest, under penalty of perjury, that he or she did not receive a scholarship or grant to pay the costs for which he or she is being reimbursed; and
- (2) Enter into an agreement with the Department to teach at a public or private school in this State for at least 5 years.
 - (c) Provide that the recipient of a grant must receive:
- (1) Seventy-five percent of the grant upon signing the agreement described in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b); and
- (2) Twenty-five percent of the grant upon completing his or her fifth year teaching at a public or private school in this State.





(d) Provide procedures to award grants in a fair and equitable manner.

- Sec. 3. 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. 4. 1. This section and sections 1 and 3 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

 2. Section 2 of this act becomes effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On January 1, 2020, for all other purposes.





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