

Senate Bill No. 446–Committee on Education

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; authorizing the three Nevada State Commissioners who are appointed to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education to enter into reciprocity agreements for the purpose of authorizing certain postsecondary educational institutions to provide distance education to residents of this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a regional organization created by the Western Regional Higher Education Compact to meet certain educational needs of the western states and territories of the United States. The Governor of Nevada endorsed and thereby adopted the Compact in 1959. (NRS 397.010-397.080) As provided by the Compact, the Commission includes three Commissioners from the State of Nevada who are appointed by the Governor. (NRS 397.030) This bill authorizes the three Commissioners appointed to the Commission from the State of Nevada to enter into certain reciprocity agreements for the purpose of authorizing certain postsecondary educational institutions that are located in another state or territory of the United States to provide distance education to residents of this State.

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

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

Section 1. NRS 394.415 is hereby amended to read as follows:
394.415 ~~The~~ *Except as otherwise provided in NRS 397.060,*
the Commission is the sole authority for licensing a postsecondary
educational institution. Any person who operates or claims to
operate such an institution must be licensed by the Commission.
The Administrator may require any person who operates or claims
to operate such an institution to furnish information which will
allow the Commission to determine whether a license is required.

Sec. 2. NRS 397.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:
397.060 The three Nevada State Commissioners, acting jointly
~~shall:~~

1. *Shall:*
 - (a) Choose from among Nevada residents who apply, and have at least 1 year’s residence in this state immediately before applying for the program, those most qualified for contract places; and
 - ~~2-~~ (b) Certify them to receiving institutions.



2. May enter into any reciprocity agreement, including, without limitation, the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, for the purpose of authorizing a postsecondary educational institution that is located in another state or territory of the United States to provide distance education to residents of this State if the requirements contained in the agreement for authorizing a postsecondary educational institution that is located in another state or territory of the United States to provide distance education to residents of this State are substantially similar to the requirements for licensure of a postsecondary educational institution by the Commission on Postsecondary Education pursuant to NRS 394.383 to 394.560, inclusive. As used in this subsection, "postsecondary educational institution" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 394.099.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

