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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 386—ASSEMBLYMEN WOODBURY,  
OHRENSCHALL; AND STEWART

MARCH 18, 2013

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Referred to Committee on Education

**SUMMARY**—Establishes a pilot program for the administration of mental health screenings to pupils enrolled in selected secondary schools in the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District. (BDR S-1022)

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

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

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**AN ACT** relating to education; establishing a pilot program in the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District for the administration of mental health screenings to pupils enrolled in selected secondary schools within each school district; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

- 1 This bill establishes a pilot program in the Clark County School District and the
  - 2 Washoe County School District for the administration of mental health screenings to
  - 3 pupils enrolled in at least one secondary school within each school district.
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby established a pilot program in
- 2 the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School
- 3 District. For purposes of the pilot program, the board of trustees of the
- 4 Clark County School District and the board of trustees of the
- 5 Washoe County School District shall each:
- 6 (a) Provide for the administration of mental health screenings to
- 7 pupils enrolled in at least one secondary school within the school
- 8 district, as selected by the school district.



1 (b) Select an age-appropriate, professionally recognized mental  
2 health screening for administration to the pupils enrolled in each  
3 secondary school selected for the pilot program.

4 (c) Assist the principal of each secondary school selected for the  
5 pilot program with identifying professionally qualified persons to  
6 administer the mental health screenings to pupils and to conduct  
7 follow-up screenings if a pupil scores in a range which indicates that  
8 he or she may have a mental health issue.

9 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, each  
10 secondary school selected for the pilot program shall provide for the  
11 administration of the mental health screening selected by the school  
12 district by qualified persons to the pupils enrolled in the secondary  
13 school or to pupils enrolled in selected grades at the secondary  
14 school, as determined by the school district. The school district shall  
15 ensure that if a pupil is absent or otherwise not available on the day  
16 scheduled for administration of the mental health screenings, a  
17 make-up administration is scheduled for the pupil within a  
18 reasonable time period.

19 3. Before administration of the mental health screening to a  
20 pupil pursuant to subsection 2, the principal of the secondary school  
21 shall provide advance written notice of the screening to the parent or  
22 guardian of the pupil. The notice must inform the parent or guardian  
23 of his or her right to exempt the pupil from the screening and  
24 contain a form for the signature of the parent or guardian to exempt  
25 the pupil from the screening. If a form of exemption is signed by the  
26 parent or guardian and returned to the school, the principal must  
27 exempt the pupil and the pupil must not undergo the mental health  
28 screening.

29 4. If a pupil scores on a mental health screening administered  
30 pursuant to subsection 2 in a range which indicates the pupil may  
31 have a mental health issue, the school district shall ensure that an  
32 appropriate qualified professional conducts an in-person assessment  
33 of the pupil to determine the need, if any, for further diagnosis and  
34 treatment. If such a professional determines that the pupil should  
35 undergo further diagnosis or treatment, the school district shall  
36 provide the parent or guardian of the pupil with a list of resources  
37 available from the school district and in the county to assist the  
38 parent or guardian with obtaining appropriate further professional  
39 diagnosis and, if necessary, treatment for the pupil.

40 **Sec. 2.** 1. On or before April 1, 2014, the Clark County  
41 School District and the Washoe County School District shall  
42 provide a report to the Legislative Committee on Education  
43 concerning the status of the implementation of the pilot program for  
44 mental health screenings required by section 1 of this act.



\* A B 3 8 6 \*

1 2. On or before December 1, 2014, the Clark County School  
2 District and the Washoe County School District shall each submit a  
3 report to the Department of Education which includes, without  
4 limitation, and except as otherwise provided in subsection 3:

5 (a) The number of secondary schools in the school district  
6 selected for the pilot program;

7 (b) The number of pupils in each grade level of the secondary  
8 school selected for the pilot program and the actual number of  
9 pupils who underwent mental health screenings pursuant to the pilot  
10 program;

11 (c) The number of pupils whose parents or guardians opted out  
12 of administering the mental health screening to the pupil;

13 (d) The number of pupils who scored in a range indicating that  
14 the pupil may have a mental health issue and a description of the  
15 types of resources which were referred to the parent or guardian of  
16 the pupil;

17 (e) If available, an indication of how many parents and  
18 guardians followed up by seeking professional help for further  
19 diagnosis and, if necessary, treatment for the pupil;

20 (f) An evaluation of whether the pilot program was useful in  
21 identifying pupils with possible mental health issues and assisting  
22 the parents and guardians of those pupils with obtaining appropriate  
23 professional diagnosis and treatment; and

24 (g) Recommendations for expanding the number of schools that  
25 participate in a program of mental health screenings for pupils if the  
26 Legislature determines to continue and expand the program.

27 3. If any of the information required by the report pursuant to  
28 subsection 2 would reveal the individual identity of a pupil, the  
29 school district shall not include that information in the report.

30 4. On or before January 1, 2015, the Department of Education  
31 shall compile each report received pursuant to subsection 2 and  
32 submit the written compilation, including, without limitation,  
33 recommendations for continuing and expanding the pilot program  
34 for mental health screenings to pupils, to the Director of the  
35 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 78th Session of the  
36 Nevada Legislature.

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

