

Assembly Bill No. 386—Assemblymen Woodbury,
Ohrenschall; and Stewart

CHAPTER.....

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:

This bill establishes 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 at least one secondary school within each school district.

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. 1. There is hereby established a pilot program in the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District. For purposes of the pilot program, the board of trustees of the Clark County School District and the board of trustees of the Washoe County School District shall each:

(a) Identify and coordinate with interested stakeholders in the community to implement the pilot program.

(b) With the input and coordination of the interested stakeholders identified pursuant to paragraph (a), provide for the administration of mental health screenings to pupils enrolled in at least one secondary school within the school district, as selected by the school district.

(c) With the input and coordination of the interested stakeholders identified pursuant to paragraph (a), provide an age-appropriate, professionally recognized mental health screening for administration to the pupils enrolled in each secondary school selected for the pilot program.

(d) Assist the principal of each secondary school selected for the pilot program with identifying professionally qualified persons, including the interested stakeholders identified pursuant to paragraph (a), to administer the mental health screenings to pupils and to conduct follow-up screenings if a pupil scores in a range which indicates that he or she may have a mental health issue.



2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, each secondary school selected for the pilot program shall provide for the administration of the mental health screening selected by the school district by qualified persons, including the interested stakeholders identified pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1, to the pupils enrolled in the secondary school or to pupils enrolled in selected grades at the secondary school, as determined by the school district. The school district shall ensure that if a pupil is absent or otherwise not available on the day scheduled for administration of the mental health screenings, a make-up administration is scheduled for the pupil within a reasonable time period.

3. Before administration of the mental health screening to a pupil pursuant to subsection 2, the principal of the secondary school shall provide advance written notice of the screening to the parent or guardian of the pupil, including a form for consent or exemption. The notice must inform the parent or guardian of his or her right to consent to the screening or exempt the pupil from the screening and contain a form for the signature of the parent or guardian to consent to the screening or exempt the pupil from the screening. If a form exempting a pupil from the screening is signed by the parent or guardian and returned to the school, the principal must exempt the pupil and the pupil must not undergo the mental health screening. If a form is not returned on behalf of a pupil, the principal of the school must exempt the pupil and the pupil must not undergo the mental health screening.

4. If a pupil scores on a mental health screening administered pursuant to subsection 2 in a range which indicates the pupil may have a mental health issue, the school district shall provide the parent or guardian of the pupil with the results of the mental health screening, to the extent feasible, and a list of resources available in the county to assist the parent or guardian with obtaining appropriate further professional diagnosis and, if necessary, treatment for the pupil. The school district is not responsible for providing to such a pupil, or ensuring that such a pupil receives, further professional diagnosis or treatment.

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

2. On or before December 1, 2014, the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District shall each submit a



report to the Department of Education which includes, without limitation, and except as otherwise provided in subsection 3:

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

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

(c) The number of pupils who did not undergo a mental health screening based upon the number of pupils whose parents or guardians opted out of administering the mental health screening to the pupil and the number of pupils for whom a form was not returned pursuant to subsection 3 of section 1 of this act;

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

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

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

3. The information required by the report pursuant to subsection 2 must be provided in an aggregated format and if any of the information would reveal the individual identity of a pupil, the school district shall not include that information in the report.

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

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

