

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

MARCH 18, 2013

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.

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
- 3 to pupils enrolled in at least one secondary school within each school district.

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
- 4 the Clark County School District and the board of trustees of the
- 5 Washoe County School District shall each:
- 6 (a) Identify and coordinate with interested stakeholders in the
- 7 community to implement the pilot program, including, without
- 8 limitation, universities and colleges, local mental health



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1 professionals and medical professionals, juvenile and family courts
2 within the county, persons who are involved in the provision of
3 juvenile justice services, charitable organizations and child welfare
4 agencies.

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

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

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

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

32 3. Before administration of the mental health screening to a
33 pupil pursuant to subsection 2, the principal of the secondary school
34 shall provide advance written notice of the screening to the parent or
35 guardian of the pupil, including a form for consent or exemption.
36 The notice must inform the parent or guardian of his or her right to
37 consent to the screening or exempt the pupil from the screening and
38 contain a form for the signature of the parent or guardian to consent
39 to the screening or exempt the pupil from the screening. If a form
40 exempting a pupil from the screening is signed by the parent or
41 guardian and returned to the school, the principal must exempt the
42 pupil and the pupil must not undergo the mental health screening. If
43 a form is not returned on behalf of a pupil, the principal of the
44 school must exempt the pupil and the pupil must not undergo the
45 mental health screening.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



1 3. The information required by the report pursuant to
2 subsection 2 must be provided in an aggregated format and if any of
3 the information would reveal the individual identity of a pupil, the
4 school district shall not include that information in the report.
5 4. On or before January 1, 2015, the Department of Education
6 shall compile each report received pursuant to subsection 2 and
7 submit the written compilation, including, without limitation,
8 recommendations for continuing and expanding the pilot program
9 for mental health screenings to pupils, to the Director of the
10 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 78th Session of the
11 Nevada Legislature.
12 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

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