

SENATE BILL NO. 108—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE)

PREFILED FEBRUARY 8, 2017

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Requires a study to determine the manner in which to include certain instruction relating to criminal law in the social studies curriculum for public high schools. (BDR S-523)

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; requiring the State Board of Education to create a subcommittee to study the manner in which to include certain instruction in criminal law in the social studies courses required for graduation from a public high school; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires each pupil enrolled in a public high school to enroll in at
2 least three units of credit in social studies. (NRS 389.018) This bill requires the
3 State Board of Education to create a subcommittee to study the manner in which to
4 include certain instruction in criminal law in the required units of credit in social
5 studies and specifies certain crimes which frequently involve persons under the age
6 of 18 years that must be included in the instruction. In addition, this bill requires
7 that such instruction emphasize personal responsibility for understanding and
8 complying with the law and lists specific topics to be included as part of this
9 instruction. In addition, the instruction must include information to assist victims
10 and witnesses of such crimes and lists specific topics for this instruction. This bill
11 requires: (1) the State Board of Education to report the findings of the
12 subcommittee to the Legislative Committee on Education, including any actions it
13 has taken or intends to take to include the instruction in the social studies courses;
14 and (2) the Legislative Committee on Education to consider the report and transmit
15 any recommendations for legislation to ensure the instruction is included in the
16 curriculum for social studies to the 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature.



* S B 1 0 8 R 2 *

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

1 **Section 1.** (Deleted by amendment.)

2 **Sec. 1.5.** 1. The State Board of Education shall create a
3 subcommittee to study the manner in which to include, in one of the
4 three units of credit in social studies required pursuant to NRS
5 389.018 instruction concerning crimes that frequently involve
6 persons under the age of 18 years. Such instruction must include,
7 without limitation, crimes involving:

8 (a) Sexual conduct, including, without limitation, sexual assault,
9 statutory sexual seduction, sex trafficking and sexting;

10 (b) Alcohol and controlled substances, including, without
11 limitation, driving under the influence and the possession, use and
12 distribution of alcohol and controlled substances;

13 (c) Domestic violence;

14 (d) Stalking; and

15 (e) Destruction of property.

16 2. The instruction described in subsection 1 must emphasize
17 personal responsibility for understanding and complying with the
18 law and must include, without limitation, instruction on:

19 (a) The elements of the various crimes;

20 (b) Appropriate conduct necessary to avoid being accused of
21 such crimes, including, without limitation, specific instruction
22 concerning the legal requirements for finding consent with respect
23 to sexual conduct;

24 (c) The consequences of engaging in such crimes;

25 (d) The rights of a person alleged to have committed any such
26 crime; and

27 (e) The criminal justice system.

28 3. The instruction described in subsection 1 must provide
29 information to assist victims and witnesses of such crimes,
30 including, without limitation:

31 (a) The rights of victims;

32 (b) Resources available to victims;

33 (c) The rights and responsibilities of a person who witnesses any
34 such crime; and

35 (d) Information concerning how to report such a crime and
36 where to seek assistance.

37 4. The study conducted by the subcommittee created pursuant
38 to subsection 1 must include, without limitation:

39 (a) The manner in which to modify the curriculum of the
40 relevant course in social studies to include the instruction described
41 in subsections 1, 2 and 3;



1 (b) Any appropriate revision to the requirements for licensure or
2 endorsement that may be necessary or appropriate for a teacher who
3 provides the instruction described in subsections 1, 2 and 3;

4 (c) The professional development that may be necessary or
5 appropriate for a teacher who provides the instruction described in
6 subsections 1, 2 and 3; and

7 (d) Consideration of any similar instruction provided in another
8 state or school district.

9 5. The subcommittee created pursuant to subsection 1 shall
10 report its findings to the State Board of Education on or before
11 April 1, 2018. The State Board of Education shall, on or before
12 July 1, 2018, submit a report to the Legislative Committee on
13 Education which includes its recommendations to carry out the
14 instruction described in subsections 1, 2 and 3, as well as any
15 actions the State Board has taken or intends to take to include the
16 instruction in the relevant social studies course.

17 6. The Legislative Committee on Education shall consider the
18 report submitted by the State Board of Education and, on or before
19 September 1, 2018, prepare and submit a written report to the
20 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, for transmittal to the
21 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature, concerning the Committee's
22 consideration of the matters described in this section and any
23 recommendations for legislation to ensure the instruction described
24 in subsections 1, 2 and 3 are included in the curriculum for social
25 studies that is required to be taken in high school.

26 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.

