

SENATE BILL NO. 20—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
(ON BEHALF OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 16, 2016

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to educational personnel.
(BDR 34-342)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§1)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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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 educational personnel; requiring licensed teachers to complete training in the laws of this State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada Constitution relating to schools; removing the requirement that examinations for the initial licensing of teachers and other educational personnel include the laws of Nevada relating to schools, the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada; repealing provisions requiring teachers and other educational personnel to show knowledge of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education
2 to adopt regulations governing examinations for the initial licensing of teachers and
3 other educational personnel. Existing law also requires that such examinations
4 include the laws of Nevada relating to schools, the Constitution of the United States
5 and the Constitution of Nevada. (NRS 391.021) **Section 1.5** of this bill removes the
6 requirement that examinations for the initial licensing of teachers and other
7 educational personnel include these subjects. **Section 1** of this bill instead requires
8 a person licensed as a teacher to complete training in the laws of this State relating
9 to schools and the provisions of the Nevada Constitution relating to schools within



10 1 year after being issued a license to teach and being initially hired by the board of
11 trustees of a school district. **Section 1** also requires the Commission to prescribe the
12 required contents of this training and review and, if necessary, revise the contents
13 of this training biennially. **Section 1.7** of this bill provides certain teachers who
14 have not passed the examination on the laws of this State relating to schools, the
15 Nevada Constitution and the Constitution of the United States with additional time
16 to complete the training required by **section 1**.

17 Existing law requires certain educational personnel to show, by examination or
18 credentials showing college, university or normal school study, evidence of
19 adequate knowledge of the origin, history, provisions and principles of the
20 Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nevada. (NRS 391.090)
21 **Section 2** of this bill repeals these requirements.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. A licensed teacher, except a teacher who is licensed only as*
4 *a substitute teacher, must complete training in the laws of this*
5 *State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada*
6 *Constitution relating to schools within 1 year after being issued a*
7 *license to teach and being initially hired by the board of trustees of*
8 *a school district.*

9 *2. The Commission shall:*

10 *(a) Establish by regulation the required contents of the*
11 *training required by subsection 1;*

12 *(b) Establish by regulation the standard of proficiency*
13 *required for a teacher to receive credit for completing the training*
14 *required by subsection 1, which may include, without limitation,*
15 *an examination to test the proficiency of a teacher in the laws of*
16 *this State relating to schools and the provisions of the Nevada*
17 *Constitution relating to schools; and*

18 *(c) At least once each biennium, review the contents of the*
19 *training required by subsection 1 and, if necessary, revise the*
20 *content of the training.*

21 *3. The training required by subsection 1:*

22 *(a) Must be tailored to the professional needs of teachers.*

23 *(b) May be conducted in person or interactively through the*
24 *use of communications technology by the school district that*
25 *employs a teacher or by a vendor approved by such a school*
26 *district.*

27 **Sec. 1.5.** NRS 391.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 391.021 *1.* Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (j) of
29 subsection 1 of NRS 391.019 and NRS 391.027, the Commission
30 shall adopt regulations governing examinations for the initial



1 licensing of teachers and other educational personnel. The
2 examinations must test the ability of the applicant to teach and the
3 applicant's knowledge of each specific subject he or she proposes to
4 teach. ~~Each examination must include the following subjects:~~

- 5 ~~1. The laws of Nevada relating to schools;~~
- 6 ~~2. The Constitution of the State of Nevada; and~~
- 7 ~~3. The Constitution of the United States.~~



9 2. The provisions of this section do not prohibit the
10 Commission from adopting regulations pursuant to subsection 2 of
11 NRS 391.032 that provide an exemption from the examinations for
12 teachers and other educational personnel from another state if the
13 Commission determines that the examinations required for initial
14 licensure for teachers and other educational personnel in that state
15 are comparable to the examinations required for initial licensure in
16 this State.

17 **Sec. 1.7.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of this
18 act:

19 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a licensed
20 teacher, except a teacher who is licensed only as a substitute teacher,
21 who is initially hired by the board of trustees of a school district on
22 or before July 1, 2018, and has not passed the examination on the
23 laws of Nevada relating to schools, the Constitution of the State of
24 Nevada and the Constitution of the United States prescribed by NRS
25 391.021 before the effective date of this act must complete the
26 training required by section 1 of this act within 2 years after being
27 initially hired or the effective date of this act, whichever is later.

28 2. A teacher who was issued a conditional license on or before
29 the effective date of this act and has not passed the examination on
30 the laws of Nevada relating to schools, the Constitution of the State
31 of Nevada and the Constitution of the United States prescribed by
32 NRS 391.021 before the effective date of this act must complete the
33 training required by section 1 of this act within 2 years after the
34 effective date of this act.

35 **Sec. 1.9.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
36 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
37 provisions of this act.

38 **Sec. 2.** NRS 391.090 is hereby repealed.

39 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.



TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

391.090 Educational personnel required to show knowledge of United States Constitution and Nevada's Constitution.

1. Any person who is:

(a) Granted a license to teach or perform other educational functions in the public schools of Nevada, in the school conducted at the Nevada Youth Training Center, the Caliente Youth Center or any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS or for any program of instruction for kindergarten or grades 1 to 12, inclusive, conducted at any correctional institution in the Department of Corrections; or

(b) Charged with the duty at the Nevada Youth Training Center, the Caliente Youth Center or any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS of giving instruction in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada,

↳ must show, by examination or credentials showing college, university or normal school study, satisfactory evidence of adequate knowledge of the origin, history, provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nevada.

2. The Commission may grant a reasonable time for compliance with the terms of this section.

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