

# **Presentation to Committee to Study a New Method for Funding Public Schools in Nevada**

**April 20, 2012**

**Dr. Jay Chambers,**

**Project Co-Principal Investigator and Senior Research Fellow, AIR  
and**

**Dr. Deborah Verstegen,**

**Project Co-Principal Investigator and Professor, UNR**



**AMERICAN  
INSTITUTES  
FOR RESEARCH®**

**Exhibit B**

### Objective 1 – Inventories of States that Address Individual Student Needs and Characteristics

The inventories analysis will include:

- Historical overview of NV K-12 finance
- Comparison with other states in the nation
- Key factors:
  - Pupil Needs:
    - Poverty or at risk
    - EL
    - SWD
  - District characteristics
    - Size
    - Remoteness

### Objective 2 – Selecting Comparable States for Addressing the Individual Student Needs and Special District Characteristics

- Select candidate states & examine district diversity:

Student Needs: Poverty, EL, Students with disabilities

Degree of Remoteness: Enrollment, Student and School Density, Concentration (Herfindahl Index)

- Select final comparison states

Present preliminary results and discussion with LCB

Finalize selection

Identify similarities and differences in formulas

### Objective 3 – Incorporate Best Practices to Improve Nevada’s Existing School Funding Model

- ❑ **Emulate current NV formula** in workable simulation model
- ❑ **Incorporate *best practices*** identified in Objective 2 into the simulation model
- ❑ **Generate alternative scenarios** using best practices and document funding outcomes for NV LEAs
- ❑ **Develop final recommendations** for implementing a new funding model for NV

4

### Objective 4 – Deliverables and Attendance at Meetings of the Committee

- ❑ Prepare preliminary report and share with LCB main findings including:
  - List of student need adjustments in comparison states
  - List of small/remote adjustments in comparison states
  - Suggested best practices for incorporation in NV formula
  - Discuss issues related to phasing in best practices
- ❑ Prepare and present final report that takes into account Committee feedback

5