

DISCLAIMER

Electronic versions of the exhibits in these minutes may not be complete.

This information is supplied as an informational service only and should not be relied upon as an official record.

Original exhibits are on file at the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Library in Carson City.

Contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or library@lcb.state.nv.us.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 377

AN ACT making an appropriation to Classroom on Wheels for the purchase of two buses to provide mobile school services for homeless children in Clark County; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

As the entity which administers the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act for the State of Nevada, NDE is delighted to see that another entity is planning to provide services for homeless students.

However, we would like to remind the committee of some provisions of McKinney-Vento that must not be violated by any state-funded program.

1. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as reauthorized in January of 2002, specifically puts into law two requirements for homeless students:
 - a. Parents of homeless children must be told that they have the right to have their children bused to their school of origin, with school of origin defined as the school attended by the student before he/she became homeless.
 - b. No State shall segregate a homeless child or youth in a separate school, or in a separate program within a school, based on such child's or youth's status as homeless.

If AB 377 were to be passed, it would need to be clear that homeless students would not be transported to a single school on one of these buses.

2. If this Act were, in fact, passed, it would be to the homeless children's and youths' benefit if Classroom on Wheels were to work closely with the existing Homeless Education Office in Clark County School District to combine rather than duplicate their efforts. The Homeless Education Office in Clark County School District currently identifies and enrolls homeless students in schools and supplies the following:

Transportation to the school of origin;
Whatever services the schools need once a homeless student is enrolled, such as the acquisition of previous school records, records of immunization, etc.;

A backpack filled with school supplies;
School clothing, including shoes;
Homeless tutoring;
Eye exams/eye glasses;
Dental care.

Clark County School District has a homeless education grant this year of \$61,896.00. This does not begin to meet their expenses. As a result, they have a Title I set-aside that covers the remainder of the homeless education services. As

K-1062

ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: 4/9/03 ROOM: 3137 EXHIBIT

SUBMITTED BY: GLORIA DOPF

K

more and more schools across the state are in improvement under Title I, more and more monies must be set aside for services for special programs for Title I schools in improvement, such as School Choice and Supplemental Services. These set-asides are consuming a larger portion of Title I funds than ever before, and there is some fear that the homeless education set-aside in Clark County School District will have to be smaller. As a consequence, NDE would suggest that if more funds are designated by the Nevada Legislature for Homeless Education, there is a clear understanding that the state-funded program would work in conjunction with the already-existing federal program in the Clark County School District.