

## DISCLAIMER

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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](mailto:library@lcb.state.nv.us).

Testimony in support of SB185: Appropriates \$500,000 for the purpose of obtaining licenses to allow school, public, and academic libraries to access research databases and other on-line resources over a two-year period.

Ellen Fockler, Library Media Coordinator  
Washoe County School District

- Online research databases provide student access to age-appropriate information
  - Both Gale and EBSCOhost databases include informational sources for students from primary grades through high school
  - Grolier Online provides access to three encyclopedias, one of which is in Spanish and was developed with the Spanish-speaking peoples of the Americas as its focus
- Provide research opportunities beyond the scope of any individual library
  - Full text articles from over 500 publications for high school students, 150 publications designed for middle school students, and more than 50 for elementary students
  - Full text coverage from more than 240 newspapers and business journals
  - EBSCO Animals
  - Gale's cross-curricular database covers science, biographies, authors, multicultural topics
- Information is current, reliable, and up-to-date.
  - Surfing the web for information often produces results that are biased, unreliable, or incomplete.
- Teachers: both EBSCO and Gale include sources for professional development, including full-text journals for educators
- Funding: school budgets cannot support online databases purchased individually.
- Remote access allows students to continue research projects from home

Statements from school librarians:

My students are so happy to have EBSCO Searchasaurus (where) they can find unusual animal facts and pictures for their reports....my library may not have information on Tibetan Prickly Puffer Fish! We love our online databases to help fill in the gaps in our library information. (Monica Rice, Incline Elementary School)

These databases have proved to be a great resource for our library. We can find materials on subjects that the library doesn't have books for. Students and teachers alike have given me positive feedback. (Sally Allen, Hidden Valley Elementary)

Robert Mitchell School is an at-risk school and needs the up-to-date online databases as extra resources for students to do research. (Susie Young, Robert Mitchell Elem.)

\$500,000 is a bargain when it can buy so many valuable resources for every student in the state of Nevada. (Beth Heggeness, Traner Middle School)

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I would just like to say that these tools are invaluable. With the cost of books and the speed at which new important information changes this is one of the only ways to stay current and up to date (and) offer students an invaluable research tool.

Kathie Nichols, Incline MS

Eighth graders are required to do a major research project each year. Educational databases supplement library materials; otherwise, there would not be enough to go around when 180 students research similar topics at the same time. (Mary Alice McGee, Pine Middle School)

Science changes so fast. We've had classes doing research on cloning, stem cell, alternative energy, electric cars, and endangered species. Debate has had topics such as yucca mountain (pro and con), animal rights (pro and con), and cloning (pro and con). ALL used the online magazine and newspaper databases because they contain current/up to date information.

(Karen Deadmond, Sparks High School)

Proprietary data bases (the ones you pay for) are a necessity. They are better arranged, better documented, more timely, and more accurate than wandering around the internet via Google, AskJeeves, AltaVista, etc. If we want them to explore their world and government, EBSCO, Gale, and CQ provide an approach.

(Patrick Griffin, Reed High School)

I would be absolutely handicapped in my small library without the (online) databases. (Larry Holcomb, Incline High School)

-the content is focused and reliable

-teaching ... Boolean search logic is a great application of high level thinking skills (ie. search revising techniques of narrowing, broadening, changing search terms, depending on search results) (Becky Weinkauf, Galena High School)

1. We have many CAREER OPPORTUNITIES projects for the 4 (high school) grades. (Students) find magazine articles on the careers of their choice as well as basic (career) information in Ebsco and Gale.
2. We use Gale and Groliers often in research for all subjects. They are terrific resources ... Recently, students researched the 1920's, all aspects, the Elizabethan period, Ancient Rome, Civil War, and on and on.
3. Students (research) biographies and, as a new school, we do not always have the books to support their search. The online databases provide wonderful information in all three programs.

(Jo Schebler, Spanish Springs High School)

Our driver's education teachers could not get along with out being able to have students look up current articles on the following:

1. drunk drivers.
2. insurance rates.
3. information on automobiles.
4. Kelly blue book information.
5. consumer report information.
6. automobile financing.
7. safety information.
8. news articles related to teen drivers as well as adult drivers.

(Carolyn Polish, Hug High)