
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 407—ASSEMBLYMEN HARDY, COLLINS,
KNECHT, BROWN, MABEY, ANDONOV, BEERS,
CHRISTENSEN, CONKLIN, GEDDES, GOICOECHEA, GRADY,
GRIFFIN, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, KOIVISTO, MANENDO,
MCCLAIN, OCEGUERA, PIERCE AND WEBER

MARCH 17, 2003

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Authorizes school districts to open public school libraries to general public. (BDR 34-1183)

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

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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 public schools; authorizing the boards of trustees of school districts to grant the use of public school libraries to the general public; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 WHEREAS, The Washoe County Library System has nearly 20
2 years of experience with successfully operating joint-use libraries
3 with the Washoe County Senior Center and the Washoe County
4 School District; and
5 WHEREAS, By opening the doors of the public school libraries to
6 the general public during times that are not regular school hours, the
7 Washoe County Library System and the Washoe County School
8 District have succeeded in providing extensive library resources to
9 local neighborhoods in a manner that benefits children, their
10 families and the community; and
11 WHEREAS, The access to books by the general public and the
12 provision of family literacy programs are inextricably linked to
13 breaking the cycle of poverty and illiteracy; and
14 WHEREAS, Expanding the use of public school libraries by
15 members of the general public throughout this state would greatly
16 benefit and improve the quality of life for the residents of this state



1 as well as represent a beneficial economy of resources; now,
2 therefore,

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

7 **Section 1.** Chapter 393 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
8 thereto a new section to read as follows:

9 *1. The board of trustees of a school district may grant the use
10 of libraries in the public schools located within the school district
11 to the general public during times that are not regular school
12 hours.*

13 *2. A member of the general public who possesses a library card
14 issued by a public library, as that term is defined in NRS 379.0057,
15 may use that library card to check out books at a school library
16 that is open to the general public.*

17 *3. The board of trustees of a school district may enter into one
18 or more cooperative agreements with:*

19 *(a) The trustees of a consolidated, county, district, town or other
20 public library located within the county in which the school
21 district is located; and*

22 *(b) The governing authority of a city library located within the
23 county in which the school district is located,
24 for the provision of library personnel and resources for a school
25 library located within the school district that is open to the general
26 public pursuant to this section.*

27 *4. If the board of trustees of a school district grants the use of
28 school libraries to the general public, the board of trustees may:*

29 *(a) Solicit and accept gifts, grants and other support for the
30 costs and expenses associated with the use of the school libraries
31 by the general public.*

32 *(b) Enhance its outreach to families with preschool children,
33 parents who need to improve their literacy skills and the general
34 community.*

35 **Sec. 2.** NRS 393.071 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 393.071 The board of trustees of any school district may grant
37 the use of school buildings or grounds for public, literary, scientific,
38 recreational or educational meetings ~~and~~ or for the discussion of
39 matters of general or public interest upon such terms and conditions
40 as the board deems proper, subject to the limitations, requirements
41 and restrictions set forth in NRS 393.071 to 393.0719, inclusive ~~and~~,
42 *and section 1 of this act.*



1 **Sec. 3.** NRS 393.0713 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 393.0713 ~~[No]~~

3 *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the* privilege of
4 using the buildings or grounds ~~[shall]~~ *must not* be granted for a
5 period exceeding 1 year. The privilege is renewable and revocable
6 in the discretion of the board *of trustees* at any time.

7 *2. The time limitation set forth in subsection 1 does not apply*
8 *to the use of a school library pursuant to section 1 of this act.*

9 **Sec. 4.** NRS 393.0714 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 393.0714 The board of trustees of any school district may grant
11 the use of school buildings, grounds and equipment without charge
12 to ~~[public]~~:

13 *1. Public* agencies for the purpose of holding examinations for
14 the selection of personnel.

15 *2. The general public for use of school libraries within the*
16 *school district pursuant to section 1 of this act.*

17 **Sec. 5.** NRS 393.0719 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 393.0719 *1.* Lighting, heating, ~~[janitor]~~ *janitorial* service and
19 the services of the person referred to in NRS 393.0718, when
20 needed, and other necessary expenses, in connection with the use of
21 public school buildings and grounds pursuant to NRS 393.071 to
22 393.0719, inclusive, ~~[shall]~~ *and section 1 of this act must* be
23 provided for out of school district funds of the respective school
24 districts in the same manner as similar services are provided for,
25 *and except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,* subject to
26 reimbursement by the user in accordance with such policies and
27 regulations as the board of trustees may adopt.

28 *2. The board of trustees of a school district may not request*
29 *reimbursement for the costs and expenses associated with the use*
30 *of a school library by the general public pursuant to section 1 of*
31 *this act.*

32 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.

