
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 217—ASSEMBLYMEN OHRENSCHALL,
KIRKPATRICK, ANDERSON, ATKINSON, CARPENTER,
CLABORN, DENIS, KOIVISTO, MANENDO, MCCLAIN,
MUNFORD, PARKS, PIERCE AND SIBLEY

MARCH 17, 2005

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Authorizes boards of trustees of school districts to provide instruction in self-defense. (BDR 34-202)

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 education; authorizing the boards of trustees of school districts to provide instruction in self-defense for certain pupils; providing that certain pupils who complete a course of self-defense must receive credit in physical education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 Existing law establishes the academic subjects, standards and courses of study
2 for the public schools in this State. (NRS 389.018-389.570)
3 This bill authorizes the board of trustees of a school district to provide
4 instruction in the elements of self-defense to pupils in middle schools, junior high
5 schools and high schools. The instruction must be included within a course of study
6 in physical education that is otherwise provided to pupils.
7 This bill also provides that if a pupil enrolled in middle school, junior high
8 school or high school completes a course in self-defense that is offered by an entity
9 other than a public school, the pupil must receive physical education credit in
10 accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of Education.

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- 1 WHEREAS, The safety of the children of the State of Nevada is
2 of paramount importance to the residents of this State; and
3 WHEREAS, The kidnapping, assault and murder of Dru Sjodin of
4 Grand Forks, North Dakota, a 22-year-old college student, from a
5 public parking lot during the winter holiday season was a sad



1 reminder for many people of the importance of being cautious and
2 knowledgeable about the techniques of self-defense; and

3 WHEREAS, While there is not an absolute safeguard to protect
4 the children of the State of Nevada from violent attacks, providing
5 instruction in self-defense to the pupils enrolled in the public middle
6 schools, junior high schools and high schools may aid in preventing
7 a tragedy such as the one that befell Dru Sjodin; now, therefore,

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9 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED
10 IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
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12 **Section 1.** Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
13 thereto a new section to read as follows:

14 *1. The board of trustees of a school district may provide*
15 *instruction in the elements of self-defense to the pupils enrolled in*
16 *the middle schools, junior high schools and high schools within*
17 *the school district. Instruction provided pursuant to this*
18 *subsection must be included within a course of study in physical*
19 *education that is otherwise offered to pupils.*

20 *2. If a pupil who is enrolled in a middle school, junior high*
21 *school or high school submits proof to the board of trustees of the*
22 *school district that he successfully completed a course in self-*
23 *defense offered by an entity other than a public school, the pupil*
24 *must be awarded credit in physical education in accordance*
25 *with the regulations adopted by the State Board pursuant to*
26 *subsection 3.*

27 *3. The State Board shall adopt regulations that prescribe:*

28 *(a) The instruction that must be provided if the board of*
29 *trustees of a school district offers instruction in self-defense*
30 *pursuant to subsection 1; and*

31 *(b) The requirements for the award of credit pursuant to*
32 *subsection 2.*

33 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.

