ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 237–ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUNK

MARCH 5, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the reimbursement of certain out-of-pocket expenses for teachers and other educational personnel. (BDR 34-608)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; providing for the reimbursement of certain out-of-pocket expenses of certain educational personnel; renaming the Teachers' School Supplies Reimbursement Account as the School Supplies Account for Certain Reimbursement Educational Personnel; authorizing the Department of Education to award grants to certain nonprofit organizations; requiring the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to establish certain requirements for the submission of a request for reimbursement from the Account; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the Teachers' School Supplies Reimbursement Account and requires the Department of Education to determine the amount of money available in the Account and apportion the money deposited in the Account among the school districts and charter schools annually based on the number of teachers employed by each school district or charter school, as applicable, up to \$250 per teacher. (NRS 387.1253, 387.1255) Sections 3 and 7 of this bill expand the educational personnel who are authorized to receive reimbursement for certain out-of-pocket expenses from the money apportioned from the Account to the school districts and charter schools. Section 6 of this bill renames the Account as the School Supplies Reimbursement Account for Certain Educational Personnel. Sections 7 and 9 of this bill make conforming changes. Under existing law, any money remaining in the Account at the end of the fiscal year must be carried





13 forward. (NRS 387.1253) Section 6 also authorizes the Department of Education to 14 award a grant of money from the Account to certain nonprofit organizations.

15 Under existing law, the Department of Education determines the amount of 16 money available in the Account to distribute among the school districts and charter 17 schools. Existing law requires the board of trustees of a school district and the 18 governing body of a charter school to distribute such money to teachers to 19 reimburse expenses incurred by purchasing necessary school supplies for direct educational services the teacher provides to pupils. (NRS 387.1255) Section 7 of this bill authorizes money from the Account to be used to reimburse out-of-pocket expenses incurred by purchasing school supplies for both direct and indirect educational services.

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 Existing law also requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to determine in what manner to distribute money from the Account to teachers. (NRS 387.1257) Section 8 of this bill requires the board of trustees or the governing body to determine whether to require a receipt submitted by educational personnel to be an original or a photocopy. Section 8 also requires the board of trustees or the governing body to determine a date by which educational personnel must purchase supplies to receive money from 31 32 the Account for that fiscal year.

Section 10 of this bill makes an appropriation to the Account.

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

Section 1. Chapter 387 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 1 2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 2. "Direct educational services" means activities that 3 4 directly educate pupils, including, without limitation, classroom 5 instruction.

Sec. 3. "Educational personnel" means a licensed 6 or 7 certified employee of a school district who devotes the majority of 8 his or her working time to the rendering of direct or indirect 9 educational services to pupils, including, without limitation, a school counselor, school nurse, school librarian, paraprofessional, 10 11 speech-language pathologist and substitute teacher if the substitute teacher is employed as a substitute teacher for 20 12 13 consecutive days or more in the same classroom or assignment.

Sec. 4. "Indirect educational services" means activities that 14 support the ability of pupils to successfully receive direct educational services, including, without limitation, counseling, 15 16 17 medical services and library services.

18 Sec. 5. NRS 387.1251 is hereby amended to read as follows: 387.1251 As used in NRS 387.1251 to 387.1257, inclusive, 19 ["teacher" means a licensed employee of a school district who 20 21 devotes the majority of his or her working time to the rendering of 22 direct educational service to pupils, except that the term does not include a substitute teacher.] and sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act, 23 24 unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined





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1 in sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act have the meanings ascribed to 2 them in those sections.

3 Sec. 6. NRS 387.1253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 387.1253 1. The **[Teachers']** School Supplies 5 Reimbursement Account *for Certain Educational Personnel* is 6 hereby created in the State General Fund. The Department shall 7 administer the Account.

8 2. The money in the Account must be invested as other money 9 of the State is invested. All interest and income earned on the money 10 in the Account must be credited to the Account.

11 3. The money in the Account must be used only for the 12 purposes specified in NRS 387.1255.

13 Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal 4. 14 vear does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in the Account must be carried forward. The Department may award a 15 16 grant of money from the Account to one or more nonprofit organizations which provide school supplies for educational 17 18 personnel if the Department determines that such organizations 19 will provide such supplies more efficiently than using the money 20 in the Account to reimburse educational personnel.

5. The Department may accept gifts, grants, bequests and donations from any source for deposit in the Account.

23 Sec. 7. NRS 387.1255 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 387.1255 1. On or before September 1 of each year, the 25 Department shall determine the amount of money that is available in 26 the [Teachers'] School Supplies Reimbursement Account for 27 Certain Educational Personnel created by NRS 387.1253 for 28 distribution among all of the school districts and charter schools in 29 this State for that fiscal year. Any such distribution must be 30 provided to each school district and charter school based on the 31 number of *[teachers] educational personnel* employed by the school 32 district or charter school, as applicable. To the extent that money is 33 available. the Department shall establish the amount of 34 reimbursement for each [teacher] educational personnel which 35 must not exceed \$250 per fiscal year.

36 2. The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall establish a special 37 38 revenue fund and direct that the money it receives pursuant to 39 subsection 1 be deposited in that fund. Money in the special revenue 40 fund must not be commingled with money from other sources. The board of trustees or the governing body, as applicable, shall disburse 41 42 money in the special revenue fund to [teachers] educational 43 *personnel* in accordance with NRS 387.1257.

44 3. The money in the special revenue fund must be used only to 45 reimburse [teachers] *educational personnel* for out-of-pocket





1 expenses incurred in connection with purchasing necessary school 2 supplies for the *direct or indirect educational services provided to*

3 pupils . [they instruct.]

4 4. The board of trustees or governing body of a charter school, 5 as applicable, shall not use money in the special revenue fund to pay 6 any administrative costs.

5. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund at the end
of a fiscal year reverts to the [Teachers'] School Supplies
9 Reimbursement Account [-] for Certain Educational Personnel.

10 Sec. 8. NRS 387.1257 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 387.1257 1. The board of trustees of each school district and 12 the governing body of each charter school that receives money pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 387.1255 shall determine the 13 14 manner in which to distribute the money to [teachers] educational 15 *personnel* in the school district or charter school, as applicable, 16 including, without limitation, whether to require [a teacher] 17 educational personnel to submit a request for a claim for 18 reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses from the special revenue 19 fund established pursuant to NRS 387.1255.

20 2. To the extent that money is available in the special revenue 21 fund, the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable, may 22 reimburse [a teacher] educational personnel up to the maximum 23 amount determined by the Department for each [teacher] 24 educational personnel pursuant to NRS 387.1255 for the fiscal 25 year.

3. If the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school, as applicable, requires <u>[a teacher]</u> *educational personnel* to submit a claim for reimbursement for outof-pocket expenses to receive money from the special revenue fund, the <u>[teacher]</u> *educational personnel* must submit such a claim no later than 2 weeks after the last day of the school year.

4. The board of trustees of a school district may enter into an agreement with the recognized employee organization representing licensed educational personnel within the school district for the purpose of obtaining assistance of the employee organization in administering the reimbursement of [teachers] educational *personnel* pursuant to this section.

5. [A teacher] Any educational personnel who [receives] receive money from the special revenue fund must submit receipts for any supplies purchased with the money to the principal of the school or charter school, as applicable. The principal must maintain such receipts until the end of the next fiscal year and make them available for inspection upon request of the Department. The board of trustees of a school district and the governing body of a charter





school shall determine whether such receipts should be submitted
 in the form of an original or a photocopy of the receipt.

6. The board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school, as applicable, shall determine a date by which supplies must be purchased by educational personnel in order for the educational personnel to be reimbursed from the Account for that fiscal year.

Sec. 9. NRS 120A.645 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 120A.645 1. A person with a claim to property paid or 10 delivered to the Administrator that is less than \$500 may, if the 11 claim is allowed by the Administrator pursuant to NRS 120A.640, 12 donate the money or the net proceeds from the sale of the property, 13 together with any dividend, interest or other increment to which the 14 person is entitled under NRS 120A.600 and 120A.610, to the State 15 for educational purposes.

2. The Administrator must, within 30 days after the allowance of a claim pursuant to NRS 120A.040, transfer the amount of the claim, together with any dividend, interest or other increment to which the person is entitled under NRS 120A.600 and 120A.610, from the Abandoned Property Trust Account to the [Teachers'] School Supplies Reimbursement Account *for Certain Educational Personnel* created pursuant to NRS 387.1253.

3. The Administrator may adopt regulations to carry out theprovisions of this section.

Sec. 10. There is hereby appropriated from the State General
Fund to the School Supplies Reimbursement Account for Certain
Educational Personnel created by NRS 387.1253 the following
sums:

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