
SENATE BILL NO. 313—SENATORS WOODHOUSE, DENIS,
DONDERO LOOP, PARKS; BROOKS AND CANCELA

MARCH 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to computer literacy and computer science education. (BDR 34-731)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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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 a person who receives an endorsement to teach in a field of specialization relating to computer literacy and computer science to request a reimbursement; creating the Account for Training in Computer Literacy; requiring a regional training program to provide training on methods to teach computer literacy or computer science; authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to apply for a grant of money from the Account to establish curriculum and standards for the training of teachers in computer literacy and computer science; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law provides various incentives for educational personnel. (NRS
2 391A.400-391A.590) **Section 3** of this bill creates the Account for Training in
3 Computer Literacy and establishes requirements for the use of money in the
4 Account. Existing law authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada
5 to prescribe courses of study for the Nevada System of Higher Education. (NRS
6 396.440) **Section 6** of this bill authorizes the Board of Regents to apply for a grant
7 from the Account to develop the curriculum and standards required to educate and
8 train students studying to become teachers in computer literacy and computer
9 science. **Section 2** of this bill authorizes a person studying to become a teacher to
10 request a reimbursement for the cost of the coursework required to obtain an
11 endorsement to teach in a field of specialization relating to computer literacy and
12 computer science.



13 Existing law requires a regional training program to provide certain training for
14 educational personnel. (NRS 391A.125) **Section 4** of this bill requires a regional
15 training program to provide training on methods to teach computer literacy and
16 computer science.

17 **Section 5** of this bill makes a conforming change. **Section 7** of this bill makes
18 appropriations to the Department of Education for the purpose of carrying out the
19 provisions of this bill.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** *A person who receives an endorsement to teach in a*
4 *field of specialization relating to computer literacy and computer*
5 *science may request a reimbursement for the cost of the*
6 *coursework required to receive such an endorsement from the*
7 *board of trustees of a school district or governing body of a*
8 *charter school that employs or will employ the person. The board*
9 *of trustees or governing body, as applicable, may reimburse the*
10 *person using money received from a grant provided to the board of*
11 *trustees or governing body pursuant to NRS 391A.510 or section 3*
12 *of this act.*

13 **Sec. 3. 1.** *The Account for Training in Computer Literacy*
14 *is hereby created in the State General Fund, to be administered by*
15 *the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Superintendent of*
16 *Public Instruction may accept gifts and grants of money from any*
17 *source for deposit in the Account. Any money from gifts and*
18 *grants may be expended in accordance with the terms and*
19 *conditions of the gift or grant and in accordance with regulations*
20 *adopted pursuant to subsection 2. The interest and income earned*
21 *on the sum of money in the Account and any unexpended*
22 *appropriations made to the Account from the State General Fund*
23 *must be credited to the Account. Any money remaining in the*
24 *Account does not revert to the State General Fund, and the*
25 *balance in the Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal*
26 *year.*

27 **2.** *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, the money in*
28 *the Account may be used only for providing or reimbursing the*
29 *cost of training in computer literacy and computer science*
30 *pursuant to sections 2 and 6 of this act. The State Board shall*
31 *adopt regulations governing the distribution of money in the*
32 *Account for this purpose.*



1 **Sec. 4.** NRS 391A.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 391A.125 1. Based upon the priorities of programs
3 prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS
4 391A.505 and the assessment of needs for training within the region
5 and priorities of training adopted by the governing body pursuant to
6 NRS 391A.175, each regional training program shall provide:

7 (a) Training for teachers and other licensed educational
8 personnel in the:

9 (1) Standards established by the Council to Establish
10 Academic Standards for Public Schools pursuant to NRS 389.520;

11 (2) Curriculum and instruction required for the standards
12 adopted by the State Board;

13 (3) Curriculum and instruction recommended by the
14 Teachers and Leaders Council of Nevada; and

15 (4) Culturally relevant pedagogy, taking into account cultural
16 diversity and demographic differences throughout this State.

17 (b) Through the Nevada Early Literacy Intervention Program
18 established for the regional training program, training for teachers
19 who teach kindergarten and grades 1, 2 or 3 on methods to teach
20 fundamental reading skills, including, without limitation:

21 (1) Phonemic awareness;

22 (2) Phonics;

23 (3) Vocabulary;

24 (4) Fluency;

25 (5) Comprehension; and

26 (6) Motivation.

27 (c) Training for administrators who conduct the evaluations
28 required pursuant to NRS 391.685, 391.690, 391.705 and 391.710
29 relating to the manner in which such evaluations are conducted.
30 Such training must be developed in consultation with the Teachers
31 and Leaders Council of Nevada created by NRS 391.455.

32 (d) Training for teachers, administrators and other licensed
33 educational personnel relating to correcting deficiencies and
34 addressing recommendations for improvement in performance that
35 are identified in the evaluations conducted pursuant to NRS
36 391.685, 391.690, 391.705 or 391.710.

37 (e) *Training for teachers on methods to teach computer*
38 *literacy or computer science to pupils.*

39 (f) At least one of the following types of training:

40 (1) Training for teachers and school administrators in the
41 assessment and measurement of pupil achievement and the effective
42 methods to analyze the test results and scores of pupils to improve
43 the achievement and proficiency of pupils.

44 (2) Training for teachers in specific content areas to enable
45 the teachers to provide a higher level of instruction in their



1 respective fields of teaching. Such training must include instruction
2 in effective methods to teach in a content area provided by teachers
3 who are considered masters in that content area.

4 (3) In addition to the training provided pursuant to paragraph
5 (b), training for teachers in the methods to teach basic skills to
6 pupils, such as providing instruction in reading with the use of
7 phonics and providing instruction in basic skills of mathematics
8 computation.

9 ~~(f)~~ (g) In accordance with the program established by the
10 Statewide Council pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS
11 391A.135 training for:

12 (1) Teachers on how to engage parents and families,
13 including, without limitation, disengaged families, in the education
14 of their children and to build the capacity of parents and families to
15 support the learning and academic achievement of their children.

16 (2) Training for teachers and paraprofessionals on working
17 with parent liaisons in public schools to carry out strategies and
18 practices for effective parental involvement and family engagement.

19 2. The training required pursuant to subsection 1 must:

20 (a) Include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(42), as
21 deemed appropriate by the governing body for the type of training
22 offered.

23 (b) Include appropriate procedures to ensure follow-up training
24 for teachers and administrators who have received training through
25 the program.

26 (c) Incorporate training that addresses the educational needs of:

27 (1) Pupils with disabilities who participate in programs of
28 special education; and

29 (2) Pupils who are English learners.

30 3. The governing body of each regional training program shall
31 prepare and maintain a list that identifies programs for the
32 professional development of teachers and administrators that
33 successfully incorporate:

34 (a) The standards of content and performance established by the
35 Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools
36 pursuant to NRS 389.520;

37 (b) Fundamental reading skills; and

38 (c) Other training listed in subsection 1.

39 ↪ The governing body shall provide a copy of the list on an annual
40 basis to school districts for dissemination to teachers and
41 administrators.

42 4. A regional training program may include model classrooms
43 that demonstrate the use of educational technology for teaching and
44 learning.



1 5. A regional training program may contract with the board of
2 trustees of a school district that is served by the regional training
3 program as set forth in NRS 391A.120 to provide professional
4 development to the teachers and administrators employed by the
5 school district that is in addition to the training required by this
6 section. Any training provided pursuant to this subsection must
7 include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(42), as deemed
8 appropriate by the governing body for the type of training offered.

9 6. To the extent money is available from legislative
10 appropriation or otherwise, a regional training program may provide
11 training to paraprofessionals.

12 7. As used in this section, "paraprofessional" has the meaning
13 ascribed to it in NRS 391.008.

14 **Sec. 5.** NRS 391A.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 391A.190 1. The governing body of each regional training
16 program shall:

17 (a) Establish a method for the evaluation of the success of the
18 regional training program, including, without limitation, the Nevada
19 Early Literacy Intervention Program. The method must be consistent
20 with the uniform procedures and criteria adopted by the Statewide
21 Council pursuant to NRS 391A.135 and the standards for
22 professional development training adopted by the State Board
23 pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 391A.370.

24 (b) On or before September 1 of each year and before submitting
25 the annual report pursuant to paragraph (c), submit the annual report
26 to the Statewide Council for its review and incorporate into the
27 annual report any revisions recommended by the Statewide Council.

28 (c) On or before December 1 of each year, submit an annual
29 report to the State Board, the board of trustees of each school district
30 served by the regional training program, the Commission on
31 Professional Standards in Education, the Legislative Committee on
32 Education and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability
33 and Program Evaluation that includes, without limitation:

34 (1) The priorities for training adopted by the governing body
35 pursuant to NRS 391A.175.

36 (2) The type of training offered through the regional training
37 program in the immediately preceding year.

38 (3) The number of teachers and administrators who received
39 training through the regional training program in the immediately
40 preceding year.

41 (4) The number of administrators who received training
42 pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 391A.125 in the
43 immediately preceding year.

44 (5) The number of teachers, administrators and other licensed
45 educational personnel who received training pursuant to



1 paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 391A.125 in the immediately
2 preceding year.

3 (6) The number of teachers who received training pursuant to
4 subparagraph (1) of paragraph ~~(f)~~ (g) of subsection 1 of NRS
5 391A.125 in the immediately preceding year.

6 (7) The number of paraprofessionals, if any, who received
7 training through the regional training program in the immediately
8 preceding year.

9 (8) An evaluation of the effectiveness of the regional training
10 program, including, without limitation, the Nevada Early Literacy
11 Intervention Program, in accordance with the method established
12 pursuant to paragraph (a).

13 (9) An evaluation of whether the training included the:

14 (I) Standards of content and performance established by
15 the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools
16 pursuant to NRS 389.520;

17 (II) Curriculum and instruction required for the common
18 core standards adopted by the State Board;

19 (III) Curriculum and instruction recommended by the
20 Teachers and Leaders Council of Nevada created by NRS 391.455;
21 and

22 (IV) Culturally relevant pedagogy, taking into account
23 cultural diversity and demographic differences throughout this State.

24 (10) An evaluation of the effectiveness of training on
25 improving the quality of instruction and the achievement of pupils.

26 (11) A description of the gifts and grants, if any, received by
27 the governing body in the immediately preceding year and the gifts
28 and grants, if any, received by the Statewide Council during the
29 immediately preceding year on behalf of the regional training
30 program. The description must include the manner in which the gifts
31 and grants were expended.

32 (12) The 5-year plan for the regional training program
33 prepared pursuant to NRS 391A.175 and any revisions to the plan
34 made by the governing body in the immediately preceding year.

35 2. The information included in the annual report pursuant to
36 paragraph (c) of subsection 1 must be aggregated for each regional
37 training program and disaggregated for each school district served
38 by the regional training program.

39 3. As used in this section, "paraprofessional" has the meaning
40 ascribed to it in NRS 391.008.

41 **Sec. 6.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
42 thereto a new section to read as follows:

43 *1. The Board of Regents may apply for a grant from the*
44 *Account for Training in Computer Literacy created pursuant to*
45 *section 3 of this act to develop the curriculum and standards*



1 *required to educate and train a person who is studying to become*
2 *a teacher in computer literacy and computer science.*

3 *2. All persons who are studying to become a teacher must*
4 *receive appropriate education and training in computer literacy*
5 *and computer science.*

6 **Sec. 7.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
7 General Fund to the Department of Education for transfer to the
8 Clark County School District for the purpose of carrying out the
9 provisions of this act, the following sums:

10 For the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 \$700,000

11 For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 \$800,000

12 2. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to
13 the Department of Education for transfer to the Washoe County
14 School District for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this
15 act, the following sums:

16 For the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 \$100,000

17 For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 \$200,000

18 3. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to
19 the Department of Education for the purpose of awarding grants of
20 money to certain school districts and charter schools pursuant to
21 subsection 4 to carry out the provisions of this act, the following
22 sums:

23 For the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 \$200,000

24 For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 \$400,000

25 4. Grants awarded from the sums appropriated by subsection 3
26 must be awarded to school districts, other than the Clark County
27 School District or the Washoe County School District, and charter
28 schools in this State through a noncompetitive application process.

29 5. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsections 1, 2
30 and 3 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must
31 not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective
32 fiscal years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any
33 entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or
34 otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the
35 appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose
36 after September 18, 2020, and September 17, 2021, respectively, by
37 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
38 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred,
39 and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
40 September 18, 2020, and September 17, 2021, respectively.

41 **Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

