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SENATE BILL NO. 312—SENATORS KIECKHEFER  
AND SEEVERS GANSERT

MARCH 22, 2021

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Referred to Committee on Finance

**SUMMARY**—Provides for the use of certain federal funding for the costs associated with the enrollment of prekindergarten pupils in prekindergarten education programs in the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. (BDR S-942)

**FISCAL NOTE:** Effect on Local Government: No.  
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.

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**AN ACT** relating to state financial administration; providing for the use of certain federal funding for the costs associated with the enrollment of prekindergarten pupils in prekindergarten education programs in the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Congress passed two  
2 bills that provided funding for education: the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and  
3 Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was signed into law on March 27, 2020,  
4 and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA)  
5 Act, 2021, which was signed into law on December 27, 2020. (Pub. L. No. 116-  
6 136; Pub. L. No. 116-260) The CARES Act provided \$2.95 billion to the national  
7 Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Nevada was allocated  
8 \$26.5 million of that money, which is now known as GEER I funding. An  
9 additional \$4.05 billion was added to the GEER Fund by the CRRSA Act, which is  
10 referred to as GEER II funding. Nevada has been allocated \$12,000,000 of GEER  
11 II funding.

12 This bill transfers \$8,000,000 of the GEER II funding allocated to the State of  
13 Nevada to the Department of Education for distribution as grants for the costs  
14 associated with the enrollment of at least 500 prekindergarten pupils in  
15 prekindergarten education programs in the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years.

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

1       **Section 1.** 1. The State Controller shall transfer the sum of  
2 \$8,000,000 of the money received pursuant to Section 312 of the  
3 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act,  
4 2021, Public Law No. 116-260, from Budget Account 101-2710,  
5 CARES Act/ESSER Funds, to Budget Account 101-2709, Office of  
6 Early Learning and Development, for distribution as grants pursuant  
7 to NRS 387.652 for the costs associated with the enrollment of at  
8 least 500 prekindergarten pupils in prekindergarten education  
9 programs in the 2021-2022 school year and at least 500  
10 prekindergarten pupils in prekindergarten education programs in the  
11 2022-2023 school year. The Department of Education shall ensure  
12 that the money transferred pursuant to this subsection is distributed  
13 as equitably as practicable to address the need for prekindergarten  
14 education programs statewide.

15       2. All money transferred pursuant to subsection 1 must be  
16 expended by the recipient of the money on or before June 30, 2023.

17       3. The money transferred pursuant to subsection 1 is not  
18 intended to finance ongoing expenditures of the Department of  
19 Education or any recipient of an award of such money as a grant,  
20 and the expenditures financed with that money must not be included  
21 as base budget expenditures in the proposed budget for the  
22 Executive Department of the State Government for the 2023-2025  
23 biennium.

24       4. The money transferred pursuant to subsection 1:

25       (a) Must be accounted for separately from any other money  
26 received by the school district or charter school and used only for  
27 the purposes specified in subsection 1.

28       (b) May not be used to settle or arbitrate disputes between a  
29 recognized organization representing employees of a school district  
30 and the school district, or to settle any negotiations.

31       (c) May not be used to adjust the district-wide schedules of  
32 salaries and benefits of the employees of a school district.

33       **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

