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SENATE BILL NO. 36—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to plans for responses to crises, emergencies and suicides by schools. (BDR 34-296)

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.

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AN ACT relating to education; requiring a development committee for a school district or charter school that develops a plan for responding to a crisis, emergency or suicide to include at least one representative of the county or district board of health; requiring the Department of Education to include information regarding an epidemic in its model plan for the management of crises, emergencies and suicides; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district and the  
2 governing body of each charter school to establish a development committee to  
3 develop a plan to be used by the schools in the district or the charter school in  
4 responding to a crisis, emergency or suicide. (NRS 388.241) **Section 1** of this bill  
5 requires at least one member of such a development committee be a representative  
6 of the county or district board of health.  
7 Existing law requires the Department of Education to develop a model plan for  
8 the management of a suicide or a crisis or emergency that involves a public or  
9 private school and requires immediate action. (NRS 388.253, 394.1687) **Section 2**  
10 of this bill requires the Department to include specific information relating to an  
11 epidemic in the model plan.



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

1       **Section 1.** NRS 388.241 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       388.241 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall  
3 establish a development committee to develop one plan, which  
4 constitutes the minimum requirements of a plan, to be used by all  
5 the public schools other than the charter schools in the school  
6 district in responding to a crisis, emergency or suicide. The  
7 governing body of each charter school shall establish a development  
8 committee to develop a plan, which constitutes the minimum  
9 requirements of a plan, to be used by the charter school in  
10 responding to a crisis, emergency or suicide.

11       2. The membership of a development committee must consist  
12 of:

13       (a) At least one member of the board of trustees or of the  
14 governing body that established the committee;

15       (b) At least one administrator of a school in the school district or  
16 of the charter school;

17       (c) At least one licensed teacher of a school in the school district  
18 or of the charter school;

19       (d) At least one employee of a school in the school district or of  
20 the charter school who is not a licensed teacher and who is not  
21 responsible for the administration of the school;

22       (e) At least one parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is  
23 enrolled in a school in the school district or in the charter school;

24       (f) At least one representative of a local law enforcement agency  
25 in the county in which the school district or charter school is  
26 located;

27       (g) At least one school police officer, including, without  
28 limitation, a chief of school police of the school district if the school  
29 district has school police officers;

30       (h) At least one representative of a state or local organization for  
31 emergency management; ~~and~~

32       (i) *At least one representative of the county or district board of*  
33 *health in the county in which the school district or charter school*  
34 *is located; and*

35       (j) At least one mental health professional, including, without  
36 limitation:

37               (1) A counselor of a school in the school district or of the  
38 charter school;

39               (2) A psychologist of a school in the school district or of the  
40 charter school; or

41               (3) A licensed social worker of a school in the school district  
42 or of the charter school.



1 3. The membership of a development committee may also  
2 include any other person whom the board of trustees or the  
3 governing body deems appropriate, including, without limitation:

4 (a) A pupil in grade 10 or higher of a school in the school  
5 district or a pupil in grade 10 or higher of the charter school if a  
6 school in the school district or the charter school includes grade 10  
7 or higher; and

8 (b) An attorney or judge who resides or works in the county in  
9 which the school district or charter school is located.

10 4. The board of trustees of each school district and the  
11 governing body of each charter school shall determine the term of  
12 each member of the development committee that it establishes. Each  
13 development committee may adopt rules for its own management  
14 and government.

15 **Sec. 2.** NRS 388.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 388.253 1. The Department shall, with assistance from other  
17 state agencies, including, without limitation, the Division of  
18 Emergency Management, the Investigation Division, and the  
19 Nevada Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public  
20 Safety, develop a model plan for the management of:

21 (a) A suicide; or

22 (b) A crisis or emergency that involves a public school or a  
23 private school and that requires immediate action.

24 2. The model plan must include, without limitation, a  
25 procedure for:

26 (a) In response to a crisis or emergency:

27 (1) Coordinating the resources of local, state and federal  
28 agencies, officers and employees, as appropriate;

29 (2) Accounting for all persons within a school;

30 (3) Assisting persons within a school in a school district, a  
31 charter school or a private school to communicate with each other;

32 (4) Assisting persons within a school in a school district, a  
33 charter school or a private school to communicate with persons  
34 located outside the school, including, without limitation, relatives of  
35 pupils and relatives of employees of such a school, the news media  
36 and persons from local, state or federal agencies that are responding  
37 to a crisis or an emergency;

38 (5) Assisting pupils of a school in the school district, a  
39 charter school or a private school, employees of such a school and  
40 relatives of such pupils and employees to move safely within and  
41 away from the school, including, without limitation, a procedure for  
42 evacuating the school and a procedure for securing the school;

43 (6) Reunifying a pupil with his or her parent or legal  
44 guardian;

45 (7) Providing any necessary medical assistance;



- 1 (8) Recovering from a crisis or emergency;  
2 (9) Carrying out a lockdown at a school;  
3 (10) Providing shelter in specific areas of a school; and  
4 (11) Providing disaster behavioral health related to a crisis,  
5 emergency or suicide;
- 6 (b) Providing specific information relating to managing a crisis  
7 or emergency that is a result of:  
8 (1) An incident involving hazardous materials;  
9 (2) An incident involving mass casualties;  
10 (3) An incident involving an active shooter;  
11 (4) An incident involving a fire, explosion or other similar  
12 situation;  
13 (5) An outbreak of disease ~~[H]~~, *including, without limitation,*  
14 *an epidemic;*  
15 (6) Any threat or hazard identified in the hazard mitigation  
16 plan of the county in which the school district is located, if such a  
17 plan exists; or  
18 (7) Any other situation, threat or hazard deemed appropriate;
- 19 (c) Providing pupils and staff at a school that has experienced a  
20 crisis or emergency with access to counseling and other resources to  
21 assist in recovering from the crisis or emergency;
- 22 (d) Evacuating pupils and employees of a charter school to a  
23 designated space within an identified public middle school, junior  
24 high school or high school in a school district that is separate from  
25 the general population of the school and large enough to  
26 accommodate the charter school, and such a space may include,  
27 without limitation, a gymnasium or multipurpose room of the public  
28 school;
- 29 (e) Selecting an assessment tool which assists in responding to a  
30 threat against the school by a pupil or pupils;
- 31 (f) On an annual basis, providing drills to instruct pupils in the  
32 appropriate procedures to be followed in response to a crisis or an  
33 emergency. Such drills must occur:  
34 (1) At different times during normal school hours; and  
35 (2) In cooperation with other state agencies, pursuant to this  
36 section.
- 37 (g) Responding to a suicide or attempted suicide to mitigate the  
38 effects of the suicide or attempted suicide on pupils and staff at the  
39 school, including, without limitation, by making counseling and  
40 other appropriate resources to assist in recovering from the suicide  
41 or attempted suicide available to pupils and staff;
- 42 (h) Providing counseling and other appropriate resources to  
43 pupils and school staff who have contemplated or attempted suicide;
- 44 (i) Outreach to persons and organizations located in the  
45 community in which a school that has had a suicide by a pupil,



1 including, without limitation, religious and other nonprofit  
2 organizations, that may be able to assist with the response to the  
3 suicide;

4 (j) Addressing the needs of pupils at a school that has  
5 experienced a crisis, emergency or suicide who are at a high risk of  
6 suicide, including, without limitation, pupils who are members of  
7 the groups described in subsection 3 of NRS 388.256; and

8 (k) Responding to a pupil who is determined to be a person in  
9 mental health crisis, as defined in NRS 433A.0175, including,  
10 without limitation:

11 (1) Utilizing mobile mental health crisis response units,  
12 where available, before transporting the pupil to a public or private  
13 mental health facility pursuant to subparagraph (2); and

14 (2) Transporting the pupil to a public or private mental health  
15 facility or hospital for admission pursuant to NRS 433A.150.

16 3. In developing the model plan, the Department shall consider  
17 the plans developed pursuant to NRS 388.243 and 394.1687 and  
18 updated pursuant to NRS 388.245 and 394.1688.

19 4. The Department shall require a school district to ensure that  
20 each public school in the school district identified pursuant to  
21 paragraph (d) of subsection 2 is prepared to allow a charter school to  
22 evacuate to the school when necessary in accordance with the  
23 procedure included in the model plan developed pursuant to  
24 subsection 1. A charter school shall hold harmless, indemnify and  
25 defend the school district to which it evacuates during a crisis or an  
26 emergency against any claim or liability arising from an act or  
27 omission by the school district or an employee or officer of the  
28 school district.

29 5. The Department may disseminate to any appropriate local,  
30 state or federal agency, officer or employee, as the Department  
31 determines is necessary:

32 (a) The model plan developed by the Department pursuant to  
33 subsection 1;

34 (b) A plan developed pursuant to NRS 388.243 or updated  
35 pursuant to NRS 388.245;

36 (c) A plan developed pursuant to NRS 394.1687 or updated  
37 pursuant to NRS 394.1688; and

38 (d) A deviation approved pursuant to NRS 388.251 or 394.1692.

39 6. The Department shall, at least once each year, review and  
40 update as appropriate the model plan developed pursuant to  
41 subsection 1.

42 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

