SENATE BILL NO. 206-SENATOR BUCK

MARCH 2, 2023

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-24)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 23) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the principal of each public school to prepare an instructional model for the school which may be shared with other public schools; prescribing requirements for the Department of Education to convert certain public schools to Department charter under certain circumstances; requirements for the operation of a Department charter school; providing for the use of certain school buildings by a Department charter school free of charge; requiring a school district to provide facilities or services to a Department charter school under certain circumstances; revising provisions governing the use of school buildings owned by the board of trustees of a school district by a Department charter school; prohibiting collective bargaining concerning the termination of employment or reassignment of the employees of a Department charter school; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the principal of each school, in consultation with the employees of the school, to prepare a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in the school. (NRS 385A.650) **Section 6** of this bill additionally requires the principal of each school, in consultation with the employees of the school, to prepare an instructional model for the school which includes information about the





curriculum, grading, planning, assessment, software and business decisions of the school. **Section 6** requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a process for allowing the principal of each school to access such instructional models from other schools with similar demographics, including from schools that receive higher ratings according to the statewide system of accountability.

Section 20 of this bill requires the Department to convert a public school to a charter school, known as a Department charter school if, for 3 consecutive years, the school is rated in the lowest 5 percent of public schools in this State in pupil achievement and school performance. Section 19 of this bill establishes the Account for Department Charter Schools, the money in which is to be used for the establishment and maintenance of Department charter schools. Section 21 of this bill requires: (1) the Superintendent of Public Instruction to solicit and evaluate applications and enter into a contract with a charter management organization, educational management organization or other person to operate a public school that is converted to a Department charter school pursuant to section 20; and (2) the Department to adopt regulations prescribing the process to apply to operate a Department charter school, which must authorize certain applicants to submit one application to operate more than one Department charter school. Section 22 of this bill provides that the Department is deemed the sponsor of a Department charter school after a contract is entered into and requires the operator of the Department charter school to appoint a governing body of the Department charter school. Section 22 provides that the governing body consists of any persons chosen by the operator of the Department charter school, with certain restrictions. Section 23 of this bill: (1) requires the principal of a Department charter school to determine whether to offer employment at the Department charter school to the persons employed at the public school at the time of the conversion; and (2) authorizes the board of trustees of the school district in which the Department charter school is located to terminate or reassign any such employees who are not offered employment by or who refuse an offer of employment from the Department charter school.

Section 23 also requires the board of trustees of a school district to: (1) without compensation, allow a Department charter school to operate in the building in which the school was located before conversion; and (2) continue to pay capital expenses for the building. Section 23 requires the governing body of the Department charter school to pay for the maintenance and operation of the building. Section 23: (1) provides that the board of trustees of a school district is not required to give priority to a capital project at a school that is converted to a Department charter school; and (2) prohibits the board of trustees of a school district from reducing the priority of any such capital project that existed before the school was selected for conversion. Section 23 also requires any pupil who was enrolled in a public school before conversion to be enrolled in the Department charter school, unless the parent or guardian of the pupil submits written notice that the pupil will not continue to be enrolled at the school. Finally, section 23 limits the amount of loans, advances or other monetary charges that the governing body of a Department charter school may authorize to be paid to the operator of the Department charter school.

Existing law prohibits the conversion of an existing public school to a charter school. (NRS 388A.075, 388A.080) **Sections 14, 25, 29 and 30** of this bill make these provisions inapplicable to a Department charter school, thereby allowing the conversion of a public school to a Department charter school.

Section 24 of this bill enacts provisions necessary for a Department charter school to be able to receive money available from certain federal grant programs. **Sections 7, 11 and 25** of this bill require a Department charter school to participate in the statewide system of accountability for public schools.



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Section 14 provides that, in general, for the purposes of the provisions governing charter schools, the term "charter school" does not include a Department charter school. **Section 28** of this bill makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **section 14** in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Existing law: (1) establishes requirements concerning the availability of certain information concerning charter schools and the operation of a charter school; (2) requires a member of the governing body of a charter school to undergo a criminal background check; (3) requires the governing body or sponsor of a charter school to submit certain reports; (4) prohibits the board of trustees of a school district from interfering with the operation of a charter school; (5) authorizes a high-performing charter school to establish an experimental academic program; (6) prohibits a member of the board of trustees of a school district or employee of a school district from soliciting or accepting gifts or payments from a governing body or employee of a charter school; (7) authorizes a charter school that meets certain requirements to apply to the Department for money for facilities; (8) prescribes the manner in which money will be apportioned to and paid by a charter school; (9) establishes procedures for pupils who are enrolled in other schools and homeschooled children to participate in classes and extracurricular activities at charter schools and for pupils enrolled in charter schools to participate in classes and extracurricular activities at other public schools; (10) establishes requirements concerning the employment of personnel at a charter school; and (11) authorizes a charter school to finance improvements through the issuance of bonds. (NRS 388A.090, 388A.095, 388A.100, 388A.171, 388A.226, 388A.247, 388A.323, 388A.345, 388A.348, 388A.363-388A.369, 388A.3934, 388A.405-388A.420, 388A.352-388A.355, 388A.471-388A.695) **Section 25** makes these provisions applicable to a Department charter school.

Section 26 of this bill requires the board of trustees of a school district in which a Department charter school is located to provide, for compensation, facilities, other than the school building in which the Department charter school operates, to the Department charter school or perform certain services for a Department charter school upon the request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Existing law authorizes charter schools that meet certain requirements relating to school performance and financial management to apply to the Department for money for facilities. (NRS 388A.405) **Section 26** authorizes a Department charter school that does not meet those requirements to apply for such money under conditions prescribed by the Department.

Existing law provides that, if the governing body of a charter school contracts with the board of trustees of a school district for the provision of school police officers, the board of trustees is immune from civil or criminal liability for the acts or omissions of those school police officers while providing services to the charter school. (NRS 388A.384) **Section 26** provides similar immunity from liability if the school district provides school police officers to a Department charter school upon the request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Existing law provides for regular financial and performance audits of charter schools. (NRS 388A.105, 388A.110) **Section 27** of this bill requires the Department to adopt regulations to carry out the provisions governing Department charter schools, which may include regulations requiring similar audits of Department charter schools. **Sections 32 and 33** of this bill make conforming changes to add references to such audits where applicable.

Sections 1 and 14-18 of this bill define certain terms relating to Department charter schools. Sections 2-5, 8-10, 12, 31 and 35-38 of this bill make conforming changes to ensure certain provisions of law applicable to public schools, school districts and charter schools apply equally to Department charter schools. Section 34 of this bill exempts Department charter schools from the Program of Empowerment Schools for public schools.





Existing law requires negotiation in good faith between a local government employer and a recognized employee organization on certain mandatory subjects, including, without limitation, discharge and disciplinary procedures. (NRS 288.150) **Section 39** of this bill makes unenforceable and void any provision of a collective bargaining agreement which limits the authority of the board of trustees of a school district to terminate the employment of or reassign a member of the staff of a school that is converted to a Department charter school.

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

Section 1. NRS 385.007 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385.007 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Challenge school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388D.305.
- 2. "Charter school" means a public school that is formed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 388A of NRS.
 - 3. "Department" means the Department of Education.
- 4. "Department charter school" means a public school operated by a charter management organization, as defined in section 16 of this act, an educational management organization, as defined in section 17 of this act, or other person pursuant to a contract with the Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to section 21 of this act and that is subject to the provisions of sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act.
- 5. "English learner" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(20).
- [5.] 6. "Homeschooled child" means a child who receives instruction at home and who is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.070.
- [6.] 7. "Local school precinct" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388G.535.
- [7.] 8. "Public schools" means all kindergartens and elementary schools, junior high schools and middle schools, high schools, charter schools and any other schools, classes and educational programs which receive their support through public taxation and, except for charter schools, whose textbooks and courses of study are under the control of the State Board.
- [8.] 9. "School bus" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 484A.230.
- [9.] 10. "School counselor" or "counselor" means a person who holds a license issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and an endorsement to serve as a school counselor issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission on Professional Standards





in Education or who is otherwise authorized by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to serve as a school counselor.

[10.] 11. "School psychologist" or "psychologist" means a person who holds a license issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and an endorsement to serve as a school psychologist issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education or who is otherwise authorized by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to serve as a school psychologist.

[11.] 12. "School social worker" or "social worker" means a social worker licensed pursuant to chapter 641B of NRS who holds a license issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and an endorsement to serve as a school social worker issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education or who is otherwise authorized by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to serve as a school social worker.

[12.] 13. "State Board" means the State Board of Education.
[13.] 14. "University school for profoundly gifted pupils" has

the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388C.040.

Sec. 2. NRS 385.083 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385.083 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 385.091:

- 1. All gifts of money which the State Board is authorized to accept must be deposited in a special revenue fund in the State Treasury designated as the Education Gift Fund and reported pursuant to subsection 4. The interest and income earned on the sum of the money in the Education Gift Fund must be credited to the Fund. Any money remaining in the Education Gift Fund at the end of the fiscal year must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.
- 2. The money available in the Education Gift Fund must be used only for the purpose specified by the donor, within the scope of the State Board's powers and duties.
- 3. If all or part of the money accepted by the State Board from a donor is not expended before the end of any fiscal year, the remaining balance of the amount donated must remain in the Education Gift Fund until needed for the purpose specified by the donor.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, the State Board shall record each gift of money deposited in the Education Gift Fund pursuant to this section and prepare a report which includes, for each such gift:
 - (a) The amount of the gift;
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, the name of the donor of the gift;
- (c) Any instructions provided by the donor concerning the use of the gift; and





- (d) Information concerning any connection between the donor and the State Board or the administration of the system of public education in this State, including, without limitation:
 - (1) Any contract between the donor and the State Board;
- (2) Any contract between the donor and the State Public Charter School Authority;
 - (3) Any contract between the donor and the Department;
- (4) Any bid by the donor for a contract with the State Board; [(4)] (5) Any bid by the donor for a contract with the State Public Charter School Authority;
- [(5)] (6) Any bid by the donor for a contract with the Department;
- (7) If the donor is a lobbyist as defined in NRS 218H.080, a statement of whether the donor lobbies on issues of interest to the State Board or relating to the system of public education in this State; and
- [(6)] (8) Any service by the donor on a committee to form a charter school created pursuant to NRS 388A.240.
 - 5. This section does not apply to any gift of money:
- (a) In an amount less than \$100,000, unless the cumulative total by the same donor within a 12-month period is equal to or more than \$100,000; or
 - (b) That is intended for a public broadcasting service.
- 6. A donor may remain anonymous for purposes of the report prepared pursuant to subsection 4, unless the donor is required to provide information pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 4.
- 7. The State Board may submit a form to each donor that requires the donor to provide the information required for inclusion in the report prepared pursuant to subsection 4. If the State Board uses such a form, the State Board may rely upon the information provided by the donor on the form for purposes of the report required of the State Board pursuant to subsection 4 and the State Board is not otherwise required to verify the contents of the information provided by the donor on the form.
- 8. The State Board shall include the report prepared pursuant to subsection 4 on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the State Board held pursuant to NRS 385.040 and review all transactions involving a gift listed on the report that have taken place since the previous meeting of the State Board.
- 9. On or before February 1 of each year, the State Board shall transmit each report prepared pursuant to subsection 4 in the immediately preceding year:
- (a) In odd-numbered years, to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the next regular session of the Legislature; and





- (b) In even-numbered years, to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 385.620 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385.620 The Advisory Council shall:
 - 1. Review the policy of parental involvement adopted by the State Board and the policy of parental involvement and family engagement adopted by the board of trustees of each school district pursuant to NRS 392.457;
 - 2. Review the information relating to communication with and participation, involvement and engagement of parents and families that is included in the annual report of accountability for each school district pursuant to NRS 385A.320 and similar information in the annual report of accountability prepared by the State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* and a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385A.070;
- 3. Review any effective practices carried out in individual school districts to increase parental involvement and family engagement and determine the feasibility of carrying out those practices on a statewide basis;
- 4. Review any effective practices carried out in other states to increase parental involvement and family engagement and determine the feasibility of carrying out those practices in this State;
- 5. Identify methods to communicate effectively and provide outreach to parents, legal guardians and families of pupils who have limited time to become involved in the education of their children for various reasons, including, without limitation, work schedules, single-parent homes and other family obligations;
- 6. Identify the manner in which the level of parental involvement and family engagement affects the performance, attendance and discipline of pupils;
- 7. Identify methods to communicate effectively with and provide outreach to parents, legal guardians and families of pupils who are English learners;
- 8. Determine the necessity for the appointment of a statewide parental involvement and family engagement coordinator or a parental involvement and family engagement coordinator in each school district, or both;
- 9. Work in collaboration with the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by NRS 385.630 to carry out the duties prescribed in NRS 385.635; and
- 10. On or before February 1 of each year, submit a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the Legislature in odd-numbered years and to the Legislative





Commission in even-numbered years, describing the activities of the Advisory Council and any recommendations for legislation.

- **Sec. 4.** NRS 385.800 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.800 1. The Office of Science, Innovation and Technology established by NRS 223.600 shall:
- (a) In consultation with the board of trustees of each school district, develop a standardized, statewide system of gathering data from pupils and their families to assess the ability of pupils to access the Internet at their homes. The statewide system must:
 - (1) Be able to be replicated each year;
- (2) Be developed with consideration of existing processes and systems for gathering data on pupils and their families and, to the greatest extent possible, use such processes and systems;
- (3) Provide data on access to the Internet at the permanent or temporary address of a pupil; and
- (4) To the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, be able to disaggregate data based on the name of the pupil, the name of the family of the pupil and other appropriate personally identifiable information.
- (b) Develop a method to share the data gathered pursuant to paragraph (a), to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, with providers of telecommunications networks, services or equipment interested in providing access to the Internet to pupils who lack access to the Internet at their homes.
- (c) Develop recommendations for minimum standards for telecommunications technology owned by a school or school district that will best ensure the capability of the telecommunications technology to connect to the Internet. The recommendations must, without limitation:
- (1) Evaluate the connectivity capabilities of the telecommunications technology and not other features, including, without limitation, processing power and memory;
- (2) Require the telecommunications technology to connect to wireless fidelity, fixed wireless and mobile wireless Internet; and
- (3) Include a list of recommended telecommunications technology that meets the recommended standards.
- (d) Review each report submitted by the board of trustees of a school district, *the Department* and the State Public Charter School Authority pursuant to NRS 385.810 and, based on the review:
- (1) Conduct an analysis to identify any gaps in access to the Internet which must, without limitation:





(I) Disaggregate any data by school district, charter school, the number of pupils who lack access to the Internet and the number of pupils who lack access to telecommunications technology;

(II) Review data gathered in response to the public-health

crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(III) To the greatest extent possible, use existing mechanisms for gathering data;

- (2) Develop a fiscal plan to close gaps in access to the Internet and gaps in access to telecommunications technology which may include, without limitation, use of the Lifeline program of the Federal Communications Commission, or its successor program, the Emergency Broadband Benefit program of the Federal Communications Commission, or its successor program, or the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support program of the Federal Communications Commission, or its successor program; and
- (3) Develop a plan to assess the speed of uploads and downloads on telecommunications technology to determine the number of pupils who have access to the Internet but lack sufficient speeds to participate in remote learning.
- 2. In carrying out its duties pursuant to subsection 1, the Office shall work with:
- (a) Private sector providers of telecommunications networks, services or equipment to understand the data and guarantees of payment that may be required to connect to the Internet pupils who lack access to the Internet at their homes:
- (b) Persons and entities who can inform the Office on current and future standards for wireless fidelity, fixed wireless and mobile wireless Internet and spectrum availability and provide recommendations on the features a telecommunications technology must have to connect with existing and future broadband networks;
- (c) Persons and entities who can provide information on delivery of access to the Internet that, to the greatest extent possible, will use existing firewall and filter services provided by a school district or charter school;
- (d) Persons and entities who can provide information on gathering data, data privacy and laws and regulations on datasharing that could affect the efforts of the Office to identify and provide access to the Internet to pupils who lack access to the Internet at their homes; and
- (e) Persons and entities, including, without limitation, the Department of Health and Human Services, who can provide information on programs that may be used to provide access to the Internet to pupils who lack access to the Internet at their homes.





- 3. The Department and the Office may adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 4. As used in this section, "telecommunications technology" includes, without limitation, a laptop computer or tablet device.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 385.810 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.810 1. On or before November 1 of each year, the board of trustees of each school district, *the Department* and the State Public Charter School Authority shall submit a report to the Office of Science, Technology and Innovation in a manner prescribed by the Office. The report must include:
- (a) The number of pupils who lack access to the Internet at their homes and, to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the addresses of such pupils;
- (b) The number of pupils who use a hotspot provided by the school district or charter school to access the Internet;
- (c) The number of pupils who lack access to telecommunications technology that is capable of facilitating remote learning;
- (d) The number of pupils who lack both access to the Internet and access to telecommunications technology; and
- (e) The current requirements of the board of trustees of the school district, *the Department* or the State Public Charter School Authority for telecommunications technology owned by the school district, a school within the school district, the State Public Charter School Authority or a charter school sponsored by the State Public Charter School Authority ... or the Department.
- 2. As used in this section, "telecommunications technology" includes, without limitation, a laptop computer or tablet device.
- **Sec. 6.** Chapter 385A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The principal of each public school, including, without limitation, each charter school, shall, in consultation with the employees of the school, prepare an instructional model for the school which must include, without limitation, information about the curriculum, grading, planning, assessment, software and business decisions of the school.
- 2. The principal of each public school shall, in consultation with the employees of the school, annually review the instructional model prepared pursuant to this section and make revisions as necessary.
- 3. On or before the date prescribed by regulation of the State Board pursuant to subsection 5, the principal of each public school shall submit the instructional model or the revised instructional model, as applicable, to:





(a) The Department; and

(b) The board of trustees of the school district in which the school is located or, if the school is a charter school, the governing body of the abarter school

body of the charter school.

4. The Department shall develop and implement a process for allowing the principal of each public school to access such instructional models from other schools with similar demographics, including, without limitation, from schools that receive higher ratings according to the statewide system of accountability for public schools.

5. The State Board shall adopt regulations necessary to carry

out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 7. NRS 385A.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385A.070 1. The board of trustees of each school district in this State, in cooperation with associations recognized by the State Board as representing licensed educational personnel in the district, shall adopt a program providing for the accountability of the school district to the residents of the district and to the State Board for the quality of the schools and the educational achievement of the pupils in the district, including, without limitation, pupils enrolled in charter schools sponsored by the school district. The board of trustees of each school district shall report the information required by NRS 385A.070 to 385A.320, inclusive, for each charter school sponsored by the school district. The information for charter schools must be reported separately.

- The board of trustees of each school district shall, on or before December 31 of each year, prepare for the immediately preceding school year a single annual report of accountability concerning the educational goals and objectives of the school district, the information prescribed by NRS 385A.070 to 385A.320, inclusive, and such other information as is directed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. A separate reporting for a group of pupils must not be made pursuant to NRS 385A.070 to 385A.320, inclusive, if the number of pupils in that group is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information or the results would reveal personally identifiable information about an individual pupil. The Department shall use the mechanism approved by the United States Department of Education for the statewide system of accountability for public schools for determining the minimum number of pupils that must be in a group for that group to yield statistically reliable information.
- 3. The State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school shall, on or before December 31 of each year, prepare for the immediately preceding





1 school year an annual report of accountability of the charter schools 2 sponsored by the State Public Charter School Authority, the 3 **Department** or *the* institution, as applicable, concerning the accountability information prescribed by the Department pursuant to 5 this section. The Department, in consultation with the State Public 6 Charter School Authority and each college or university within the 7 Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school, 8 shall prescribe by regulation the information that must be prepared 9 by the State Public Charter School Authority, the Department and the institution, as applicable, which must include, without 10 limitation, the information contained in subsection 2 and NRS 11 12 385A.070 to 385A.320, inclusive, as applicable to charter schools. 13 The Department shall provide for public dissemination of the annual 14 report of accountability prepared pursuant to this section by posting 15 a copy of the report on the Internet website maintained by the 16 Department.

4. The annual report of accountability prepared pursuant to this section must be presented in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that parents can understand.

Sec. 8. NRS 385A.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385A.080 1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall:

- (a) Prescribe forms for the reports required pursuant to NRS 385A.070 and provide the forms to the respective school districts, the State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school.
- (b) Provide statistical information and technical assistance to the school districts, the State Public Charter School Authority , *the Department* and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school to ensure that the reports provide comparable information with respect to each school in each district, each charter school and among the districts and charter schools throughout this State.
 - (c) Consult with a representative of the:
 - (1) Nevada State Education Association;
 - (2) Nevada Association of School Boards;
 - (3) Nevada Association of School Administrators;
 - (4) Nevada Parent Teacher Association;
 - (5) Budget Division of the Office of Finance;
 - (6) Legislative Counsel Bureau; and
 - (7) Charter School Association of Nevada,
- → concerning the program adopted pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 385A.070 and consider any advice or recommendations submitted by the representatives with respect to the program.



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2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may consult with representatives of parent groups other than the Nevada Parent Teacher Association concerning the program adopted pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 385A.070 and consider any advice or recommendations submitted by the representatives with respect to the program.

Sec. 9. NRS 385A.090 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385A.090 1. On or before September 30 of each year:

- (a) The board of trustees of each school district, the State Public Charter School Authority , *the Department* and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school shall provide written notice that the report required pursuant to NRS 385A.070 is available on the Internet website maintained by the school district, *the* State Public Charter School Authority , *the Department* or *the* institution, if any, or otherwise provide written notice of the availability of the report. The written notice must be provided to the:
 - (1) Governor;

- (2) State Board:
- (3) Department;
- (4) Committee;
- (5) Bureau; and
- (6) The Attorney General, with a specific reference to the information that is reported pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of NRS 385A.250.
- (b) The board of trustees of each school district, the State Public Charter School Authority, the Department and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school shall provide for public dissemination of the annual report of accountability prepared pursuant to NRS 385A.070 by posting a copy of the report on the Internet website maintained by the school district, the State Public Charter School Authority, the Department or the institution, if any. If a school district does not maintain a website, the district shall otherwise provide for public dissemination of the annual report by providing a copy of the report to the schools in the school district, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district, the residents of the district, and the parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in schools in the district, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district. If the State Public Charter School Authority or the institution does not maintain a website, the State Public Charter School Authority or the institution, as applicable, shall otherwise provide for public dissemination of the annual report by providing a copy of the report to each charter





school it sponsors and the parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in each charter school it sponsors.

- 2. Upon the request of the Governor, the Attorney General, an entity described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 or a member of the general public, the board of trustees of a school district, the State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* or a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school, as applicable, shall provide a portion or portions of the report required pursuant to NRS 385A.070.
- **Sec. 10.** NRS 385Å.240 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385Å.240 1. The annual report of accountability prepared pursuant to NRS 385Å.070 must include information on the attendance, truancy and transiency of pupils, including, without limitation:
- (a) Records of the attendance and truancy of pupils in all grades, including, without limitation:
- (1) The average daily attendance of pupils, for each school in the district and the district as a whole, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district.
- (2) For each elementary school, middle school and junior high school in the district, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district that provides instruction to pupils enrolled in a grade level other than high school, information that compares the attendance of the pupils enrolled in the school with the attendance of pupils throughout the district and throughout this State. The information required by this subparagraph must be provided in consultation with the Department to ensure the accuracy of the comparison.
- (b) The number of pupils in each grade who are retained in the same grade pursuant to NRS 392.033, 392.125 or 392.760, for each school in the district and the district as a whole, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district.
- (c) The transiency rate of pupils for each school in the district and the district as a whole, including, without limitation, each charter school sponsored by the district. For the purposes of this paragraph, a pupil is not transient if the pupil is transferred to a different school within the school district as a result of a change in the zone of attendance by the board of trustees of the school district pursuant to NRS 388.040.
- (d) The number of habitual truants reported for each school in the district and for the district as a whole, including, without limitation, the number who are:
- (1) Reported to an attendance officer, a school police officer or a local law enforcement agency pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 392.144;





- (2) Referred to an advisory board to review school attendance pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 392.144; and
- (3) Referred for the imposition of administrative sanctions pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 392.144.
- 2. The information included pursuant to subsection 1 must allow such information to be disaggregated by:
 - (a) Pupils who are economically disadvantaged;
 - (b) Pupils from major racial and ethnic groups;
 - (c) Pupils with disabilities;
 - (d) Pupils who are English learners;
 - (e) Pupils who are migratory children;
- 13 (f) Gender;

- (g) Pupils who are homeless;
 - (h) Pupils in foster care; and
- (i) Pupils whose parent or guardian is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, a reserve component thereof or the National Guard.
 - 3. On or before September 30 of each year:
- (a) The board of trustees of each school district shall submit to each advisory board to review school attendance created in the county pursuant to NRS 392.126 the information required by paragraph (a) of subsection 1.
- (b) The State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* and each college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school shall submit to each advisory board to review school attendance created in a county pursuant to NRS 392.126 the information regarding the records of the attendance and truancy of pupils enrolled in the charter school located in that county, if any, in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the Department pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385A.070.
 - Sec. 11. NRS 385A.720 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 385A.720 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3:
- (a) Based upon the information received from the Department pursuant to NRS 385A.670, the board of trustees of each school district shall, on or before August 15 of each year, issue a preliminary rating for each public school in the school district in accordance with the statewide system of accountability for public schools, excluding charter schools sponsored by the State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* or a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education.
- (b) The board of trustees shall make preliminary ratings for all charter schools that are sponsored by the board of trustees.





- (c) The Department shall make preliminary ratings for all charter schools sponsored by the State Public Charter School Authority *and the Department* and all charter schools sponsored by a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education.
 - 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3:
- (a) Before making a final rating for a school, the board of trustees of the school district or the Department, as applicable, shall provide the school an opportunity to review the data upon which the preliminary rating is based and to present evidence.
- (b) If the school is a public school of the school district or a charter school sponsored by the board of trustees, the board of trustees of the school district shall, in consultation with the Department, make a final determination concerning the rating for the school on September 15.
- (c) If the school is a charter school sponsored by the State Public Charter School Authority , *the Department* or a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education, the Department shall make a final determination concerning the rating for the school on September 15.
- 3. The Department may temporarily waive or otherwise pause the requirement to make ratings for public schools that comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6311(c) pursuant to this section if the United States Department of Education grants a waiver from or otherwise pauses the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6311(c).
- 4. On or before September 15 of each year, the Department shall post on the Internet website maintained by the Department the determinations and final ratings made for all schools in this State.
 - **Sec. 12.** NRS 388.795 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 388.795 1. The Commission shall establish a plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools of this State. In preparing the plan, the Commission shall consider:
- (a) Plans that have been adopted by the Department and the school districts and charter schools in this State;
 - (b) Plans that have been adopted in other states;
- (c) The information reported pursuant to NRS 385A.310 and similar information included in the annual report of accountability information prepared by the State Public Charter School Authority, *the Department* and a college or university within the Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385A.070;
- (d) The results of the assessment of needs conducted pursuant to subsection 6; and
- (e) Any other information that the Commission or the Committee deems relevant to the preparation of the plan.





- 2. The plan established by the Commission must include recommendations for methods to:
- (a) Incorporate educational technology into the public schools of this State;
- (b) Increase the number of pupils in the public schools of this State who have access to educational technology;
- (c) Increase the availability of educational technology to assist licensed teachers and other educational personnel in complying with the requirements of continuing education, including, without limitation, the receipt of credit for college courses completed through the use of educational technology;
- (d) Facilitate the exchange of ideas to improve the achievement of pupils who are enrolled in the public schools of this State; and
- (e) Address the needs of teachers in incorporating the use of educational technology in the classroom, including, without limitation, the completion of training that is sufficient to enable the teachers to instruct pupils in the use of educational technology.
 - 3. The Department shall provide:
 - (a) Administrative support;
 - (b) Equipment; and
 - (c) Office space,

- → as is necessary for the Commission to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 4. The following entities shall cooperate with the Commission in carrying out the provisions of this section:
 - (a) The State Board.
 - (b) The board of trustees of each school district.
 - (c) The superintendent of schools of each school district.
 - (d) The Department.
 - 5. The Commission shall:
- (a) Develop technical standards for educational technology and any electrical or structural appurtenances necessary thereto, including, without limitation, uniform specifications for computer hardware and wiring, to ensure that such technology is compatible, uniform and can be interconnected throughout the public schools of this State.
- (b) Allocate money to the school districts from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology created pursuant to NRS 388.800 and any money appropriated by the Legislature for educational technology, subject to any priorities for such allocation established by the Legislature.
- (c) Establish criteria for the board of trustees of a school district that receives an allocation of money from the Commission to:
 - (1) Repair, replace and maintain computer systems.





- (2) Upgrade and improve computer hardware and software and other educational technology.
- (3) Provide training, installation and technical support related to the use of educational technology within the district.
- (d) Submit to the Governor, the Committee and the Department its plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools of this State and any recommendations for legislation.
- (e) Review the plan annually and make revisions as it deems necessary or as directed by the Committee or the Department.
- (f) In addition to the recommendations set forth in the plan pursuant to subsection 2, make further recommendations to the Committee and the Department as the Commission deems necessary.
- 6. During the spring semester of each even-numbered school year, the Commission shall conduct an assessment of the needs of each school district relating to educational technology. In conducting the assessment, the Commission shall consider:
- (a) The recommendations set forth in the plan pursuant to subsection 2;
- (b) The plan for educational technology of each school district, if applicable;
- (c) Evaluations of educational technology conducted for the State or for a school district, if applicable; and
 - (d) Any other information deemed relevant by the Commission.
- → The Commission shall submit a final written report of the assessment to the Superintendent of Public Instruction on or before April 1 of each even-numbered year.
- 7. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prepare a written compilation of the results of the assessment conducted by the Commission and transmit the written compilation on or before June 1 of each even-numbered year to the Committee and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the next regular session of the Legislature.
- 8. The Commission may appoint an advisory committee composed of members of the Commission or other qualified persons to provide recommendations to the Commission regarding standards for the establishment, coordination and use of a telecommunications network in the public schools throughout the various school districts in this State. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the Commission and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.
- 9. As used in this section, "public school" includes the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS.





- **Sec. 13.** Chapter 388A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 14 to 27, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 14. "Charter school" does not include a Department charter school, except to the extent provided by section 25 of this act.
- Sec. 15. As used in sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 16, 17 and 18 of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
- Sec. 16. "Charter management organization" means a nonprofit corporation, organization or other entity that provides services relating to the operation and management of charter schools.
- Sec. 17. "Educational management organization" means a for-profit corporation, business, organization or other entity that provides services relating to the operation and management of charter schools.
- Sec. 18. "Public school" does not include a charter school or a university school for profoundly gifted pupils.
- Sec. 19. 1. The Account for Department Charter Schools is hereby created in the State General Fund, to be administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 2. The interest and income earned on the money in the Account must be credited to the Account.
- 3. The money in the Account may be used only for the establishment and maintenance of Department charter schools.
- 4. Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in the Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.
- 5. The Department may accept gifts, grants, donations and bequests to carry out the responsibilities of the Department pursuant to sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act. Any money from gifts, grants, donations and bequests must be deposited in the Account and may be expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the gift, grant or bequest, or in accordance with this section.
- 6. Claims against the Account must be paid as other claims against the State are paid.
 - Sec. 20. 1. The Department shall take over the responsibility for a public school and convert the public school to a Department charter school if, for 3 consecutive years, based upon the annual reports of the statewide system of accountability for public schools, the public school was rated in the lowest 5





percent of public schools in this State in pupil achievement and school performance.

- 2. The Department shall notify a public school which will be converted to a Department charter school pursuant to subsection 1, and notify the school district in which the public school is located, not later than 60 days after determining that conversion is required.
- Sec. 21. 1. For each public school which is converted to a Department charter school pursuant to section 20 of this act, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall:

(a) Solicit applications from educational management organizations, charter management organizations and other

persons to operate the Department charter school.

- (b) Provide information to parents of pupils enrolled at the public school concerning programs of instruction that applicants to operate the Department charter school have proposed to offer at the Department charter school and, in accordance with any regulations adopted pursuant to section 27 of this act, solicit the input of such parents concerning the needs of such pupils and the ability of the proposed programs of instruction to address those needs.
- (c) Taking into consideration the input provided pursuant to paragraph (b), evaluate the applications submitted to operate the Department charter school and approve an application that the Department determines is high quality, meets the identified educational needs of pupils and is likely to improve pupil achievement and school performance.
- (d) Negotiate and enter into a contract to operate the Department charter school directly with a charter management organization, educational management organization or other person whose application is approved pursuant to paragraph (c). Such a contract must not:
- (1) Contain any provision that would delay or prevent the approval of an application by the governing body of the Department charter school or the Department for an exemption from federal taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3);

(2) Require the Department to pay any costs associated with

ensuring that services comply with state and federal law;

(3) Provide that the charter management organization, educational management organization or other person, as applicable, is not liable for failing to comply with the requirements of the contract; or

(4) Provide for the enforcement of terms of the contract that conflict with an applicable charter contract or federal or state law.





(e) Monitor and evaluate pupil achievement and school performance of each Department charter school.

2. The Department shall adopt regulations that prescribe the process by which a charter management organization, educational management organization or other person may apply to operate a Department charter school. Such regulations must, without limitation:

- (a) Require each application to include a plan to involve and engage the parents and families of pupils enrolled at the Department charter school; and
- (b) Authorize a charter management organization, educational management organization or other person to submit one application to operate more than one Department charter school.
- 3. If a charter management organization, educational management organization or other person applies to operate more than one Department charter school pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2, the Department must not approve the application unless any Department charter school currently operated by the charter management organization, educational management organization or other person, as applicable, meets specific criteria for pupil achievement and school performance established for each such school by the Department.
- Sec. 22. 1. After a contract is entered into pursuant to section 21 of this act, the Department shall be deemed the sponsor of the Department charter school for all purposes, including, without limitation, receipt of the sponsorship fee prescribed by NRS 388A.414.
- 2. The charter management organization, educational management organization or other person with whom the Superintendent of Public Instruction enters into a contract to operate the Department charter school shall appoint the governing body of the Department charter school, consisting of such persons as deemed appropriate by the charter management organization, educational management organization or other person, as applicable, and who meet the requirements set forth in subsection 3. The governing body has such powers and duties as assigned pursuant to sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act and any other applicable law or regulation and by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 3. At least two members of the governing body of a Department charter school must reside in the community in which the Department charter school is located. A person who is employed by the charter management organization, educational management organization or other person with whom the Superintendent of Public Instruction has entered into a contract to





operate the Department charter school may not serve as a voting member of the governing body of the Department charter school.

4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may terminate a contract to operate a Department charter school before the expiration of the contract under circumstances prescribed by

regulation of the Department.

 Sec. 23. 1. After the governing body of a Department charter school is appointed pursuant to section 22 of this act, the governing body shall select the principal of the Department charter school. The principal shall review each employee of the public school that was converted to a Department charter school to determine whether to offer the employee a position in the Department charter school based on the needs of the school and the ability of the employee to effectively meet those needs. The board of trustees of the school district in which the Department charter school is located may terminate the employment of or reassign any employee who is not offered a position in the Department charter school or does not accept such a position.

- 2. A public school which is converted to a Department charter school pursuant to section 20 of this act must continue to operate in the same building in which the school operated before being converted to a Department charter school. The board of trustees of the school district in which the school is located must provide such use of the building without compensation. While the school is operated as a Department charter school, the governing body of the Department charter school shall pay all costs related to the maintenance and operation of the building and the board of trustees shall pay all capital expenses.
 - 3. The board of trustees of a school district:
- (a) Is not required to give priority to a capital project at a public school that is selected for conversion to a Department charter school; and
- (b) Shall not reduce the priority of such a capital project that existed before the school was selected for conversion.
- 4. Any pupil who was enrolled at a public school before the school was converted to a Department charter school pursuant to section 20 of this act must be enrolled in the Department charter school, unless the parent or guardian of the pupil submits a written notice to the principal of the Department charter school that the pupil will not continue to be enrolled in the Department charter school.
- 5. The governing body of a Department charter school shall not authorize the payment of loans, advances or other monetary charges to the charter management organization, educational management organization or other person with whom the





Superintendent of Public Instruction has entered into a contract to operate the Department charter school which are greater than 15 percent of the total expected funding to be received by the Department charter school from the State Education Fund.

Sec. 24. 1. Each Department charter school is hereby deemed a local educational agency for the purpose of receiving any money available from federal grant programs. A Department charter school that receives money pursuant to such a grant program shall comply with any applicable reporting requirements to receive the grant.

2. As used in this section, "local educational agency" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(30)(A).

Sec. 25. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of this chapter are not applicable to a Department charter school.

2. The provisions of NRS 388A.090, 388A.095, 388A.100, 388A.171, 388A.226, 388A.247, 338A.323, 338A.345, 388A.348, 388A.352 to 388A.355, inclusive, 388A.363 to 388A.369, inclusive, subsection 1 of NRS 388A.3934, NRS 388A.405 to 388A.420, inclusive, and 388A.471 to 388A.695, inclusive, apply to a Department charter school.

Sec. 26. 1. Upon request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the board of trustees of the school district in which a Department charter school is located shall provide facilities to operate the Department charter school, in addition to and not including the building in which the Department charter school operates pursuant to section 23 of this act, or perform any service relating to the operation of the Department charter school, including, without limitation, transportation, the provision of food services and health services for pupils who are enrolled in the Department charter school and the provision of school police officers. The governing body of the Department charter school shall reimburse the board of trustees for the cost of such facilities and services. If a dispute arises between the governing body of a Department charter school or the Department and the board of trustees of a school district concerning the cost of such facilities and services to be reimbursed, the Superintendent of Public Instruction must determine the cost to be reimbursed.

2. To the extent money is available from legislative appropriation or otherwise, a Department charter school that does not meet the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 388A.405 may apply to the Department for money for facilities if the Department charter school meets the requirements prescribed by regulation of the Department.





- 3. A school district that provides school police officers to a Department charter school pursuant to this section is immune from civil and criminal liability for any act or omission of a school police officer that provides services to the Department charter school.
- Sec. 27. The Department shall adopt any regulations necessary or convenient to carry out the provisions of sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act. The regulations may prescribe, without limitation:
- 1. The process by which the Superintendent of Public Instruction must solicit the input of parents of pupils enrolled at a public school that will be converted to a Department charter school concerning the needs of such pupils pursuant to section 21 of this act before approving an application to operate the Department charter school pursuant to section 20 of this act.
- 2. The process by which the Superintendent of Public Instruction must solicit applications to operate a Department charter school and the procedure and criteria that the Superintendent must use when evaluating such applications pursuant to section 20 of this act.
- 3. The manner in which the Superintendent of Public Instruction must monitor and evaluate pupil achievement and school performance of a Department charter school.
- 4. The process by which a parent or legal guardian of a child may apply for enrollment in a Department charter school, including, without limitation, the required contents of the application and the criteria used to determine which pupils will be enrolled in the Department charter school. A Department charter school shall not accept applications for enrollment in the Department charter school or otherwise discriminate based on the race, gender, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of a pupil.
- 5. Requirements for annual independent audits of Department charter schools, including, without limitation:
- (a) Required training for prospective auditors on the expectations and scope of the audits;
- (b) Annual performance audits and financial audits of Department charter schools that do not satisfy the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 388A.405; and
- (c) Performance audits every 3 years and annual financial audits of Department charter schools that satisfy the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 388A.405.
- 6. Ethics requirements for the governing bodies of charter schools.
 - 7. Procedures for accounting and budgeting.





8. The process by which the Superintendent of Public Instruction must fulfill the duties prescribed by subsection 1 of section 21 of this act.

Sec. 28. NRS 388A.010 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.010 As used in this chapter, the words and terms defined in NRS 388A.015 to 388A.050, inclusive, *and section 14 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 29. NRS 388A.075 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.075 [The] Except as otherwise provided in section 20 of this act, the Legislature declares that by authorizing the formation of charter schools it is not authorizing:

- 1. The conversion of an existing public school, homeschool or other program of home study to a charter school.
- 2. A means for providing financial assistance for private schools or programs of home study. The provisions of this subsection do not preclude:
- (a) A private school from ceasing to operate as a private school and reopening as a charter school in compliance with the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) The payment of money to a charter school for the enrollment of children in classes at the charter school pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 388A.471 who are enrolled in a public school of a school district or a private school or who are homeschooled.
- 3. The formation of charter schools on the basis of a single race, religion or ethnicity.

Sec. 30. NRS 388A.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.080 The provisions of this chapter do not authorize an existing public school, homeschool or other program of home study to convert to a charter school [.], except as otherwise provided in section 20 of this act.

Sec. 31. NRS 388A.353 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.353 On or before November 1 of each even-numbered year, the governing body of each charter school that [enters into a contract with] is operated by or receives services from an educational management organization shall submit to the sponsor of the charter school a report that includes the amount paid to the educational management organization in the current and immediately preceding fiscal years. On or before November 1 of each even-numbered year, each sponsor of a charter school that [enters into a contract with] is operated by or receives services from an educational management organization shall submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the next regular session of the Legislature a report that includes the amount paid to the educational management organization by the charter school in the current and immediately preceding fiscal years.





Sec. 32. NRS 388A.354 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.354 1. The governing body of a charter school that receives services from an educational management organization shall:

- (a) Post to the Internet website of the charter school:
- (1) Each financial audit and each performance audit of the charter school required by the Department pursuant to NRS 388A.105 or 388A.110 ; or section 27 of this act;
- (2) Information on the contract with the charter management organization or the educational management organization, including, without limitation:
- (I) The amount of money received by the educational management organization from public and private sources to carry out the terms of the contract;
- (II) The expenditures of the educational management organization relating to carrying out the contract, including, without limitation, the payment of salaries, benefits and bonuses; and
- (III) An identification of each contract, transaction and agreement entered into by the educational management organization relating to carrying out the contract with the charter school, including, without limitation, contracts, transactions and agreements with parent organizations, subsidiaries and partnerships of the educational management organization; and
- (3) To the extent practicable, information on any contract between a member of the governing body of the charter school or any member of the family of the member of the governing body and another charter school, sponsor of a charter school, charter management organization or educational management organization.
- (b) Submit information on the contract with the educational management organization and a letter describing whether the governing body of the charter school is satisfied with the contractual relationship with the educational management organization to the sponsor of the charter school.
- 2. The sponsor of a charter school may, after reviewing the information provided pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, request additional information, conduct an investigation or otherwise take action relating to the information received by the sponsor of the charter school.
- 3. On or before December 15 of each odd-numbered year, the sponsor of a charter school that receives information on a contract between the governing body of a charter school and an educational management organization pursuant to subsection 1 shall submit a report of such information to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.





Sec. 33. NRS 388A.405 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388A.405 1. To the extent money is available from legislative appropriation or otherwise, a charter school may apply to the Department for money for facilities if:

(a) The charter school has been operating in this State for at least 5 consecutive years and is in good financial standing;

- (b) Each financial audit and each performance audit of the charter school required by the Department pursuant to NRS 388A.105 or 388A.110 *or section 27 of this act* contains no major notations, corrections or errors concerning the charter school for at least 5 consecutive years;
- (c) The charter school has met or exceeded the school achievement targets and performance targets established pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools or has demonstrated improvement in the achievement of pupils enrolled in the charter school, as indicated by those school achievement targets and performance targets, for the majority of the years of its operation; and
- (d) At least 75 percent of the pupils enrolled in grade 12 in the charter school in the immediately preceding school year have satisfied the requirements of subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 390.600 or the criteria prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 390.600, if the charter school enrolls pupils at a high school grade level.
- 2. A charter school that satisfies the requirements of subsection 1 shall submit to a performance audit as required by the Department one time every 3 years. The sponsor of the charter school and the Department shall not request a performance audit of the charter school more frequently than every 3 years without reasonable evidence of noncompliance in achieving the educational goals and objectives of the charter school based upon the annual report submitted to the Department pursuant to NRS 388A.351. If the charter school no longer satisfies the requirements of subsection 1 or if reasonable evidence of noncompliance in achieving the educational goals and objectives of the charter school exists based upon the annual report, the charter school shall, upon written notice from the sponsor, submit to an annual performance audit. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection 1, such a charter school:
- (a) May, after undergoing the annual performance audit, reapply to the sponsor to determine whether the charter school satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) of subsection 1.
- (b) Is not eligible for any available money pursuant to subsection 1 until the sponsor determines that the charter school satisfies the requirements of that subsection.





- 3. A charter school that does not satisfy the requirements of subsection 1 shall submit a quarterly report of the financial status of the charter school if requested by the sponsor of the charter school.
- **Sec. 34.** NRS 388G.050 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388G.050 1. There is hereby established a Program of Empowerment Schools for public schools within this State. The Program does not include a university school for profoundly gifted pupils or a Department charter school.
 - 2. The board of trustees of a school district which is located:
- (a) In a county whose population is less than 100,000 may approve public schools located within the school district to operate as empowerment schools.
- (b) In a county whose population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000 shall approve not less than 5 percent of the schools located within the school district to operate as empowerment schools.
- 3. The board of trustees of a school district which participates in the Program of Empowerment Schools shall, on or before September 1 of each year, provide notice to the Department of the number of schools within the school district that are approved to operate as empowerment schools for that school year.
- 4. The board of trustees of a school district that participates in the Program of Empowerment Schools may create a design team for the school district. If such a design team is created, the membership of the design team must consist of the following persons appointed by the board of trustees:
 - (a) At least one representative of the board of trustees;
- (b) The superintendent of the school district, or the superintendent's designee;
- (c) Parents and legal guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools in the school district;
- (d) Teachers and other educational personnel employed by the school district, including, without limitation, school administrators;
- (e) Representatives of organizations that represent teachers and other educational personnel;
- (f) Representatives of the community in which the school district is located and representatives of businesses within the community; and
- (g) Such other members as the board of trustees determines are necessary.
- 5. If a design team is created for a school district, the design team shall:
- (a) Recommend policies and procedures relating to empowerment schools to the board of trustees of the school district; and





- (b) Advise the board of trustees on issues relating to empowerment schools.
- 6. The board of trustees of a school district may accept gifts, grants and donations from any source for the support of the empowerment schools within the school district.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 391.282 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.282 1. The jurisdiction of each school police officer of a school district extends to all school property, buildings and facilities within the school district and, if the board of trustees has entered into a contract with a charter school for the provision of school police officers pursuant to NRS 388A.384 [,] or provides school police officers to a Department charter school pursuant to section 26 of this act, all property, buildings and facilities in which the charter school is located, for the purpose of:
- (a) Protecting school district personnel, pupils, or real or personal property; or
- (b) Cooperating with local law enforcement agencies in matters relating to personnel, pupils or real or personal property of the school district.
- 2. In addition to the jurisdiction set forth in subsection 1, a school police officer of a school district has jurisdiction:
 - (a) Beyond the school property, buildings and facilities:
- (1) When in hot pursuit of a person believed to have committed a crime; or
- (2) While investigating matters that originated within the jurisdiction of the school police officer relating to personnel, pupils or real or personal property of the school district;
- (b) At activities or events sponsored by the school district that are in a location other than the school property, buildings or facilities within the school district; and
- (c) On the streets that are adjacent to the school property, buildings and facilities within the school district to enforce violations of traffic laws and ordinances.
- 3. A law enforcement agency that is contacted for assistance by a public school or private school which does not have school police shall respond according to the protocol of the law enforcement agency established for responding to calls for assistance from the general public.
 - **Sec. 36.** NRS 392.128 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.128 1. Each advisory board to review school attendance created pursuant to NRS 392.126 shall:
- (a) Review the records of the attendance and truancy of pupils submitted to the advisory board to review school attendance by the board of trustees of the school district, *the Department* or the State Public Charter School Authority or a college or university within the





Nevada System of Higher Education that sponsors a charter school pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385A.240;

- (b) Identify factors that contribute to the truancy of pupils in the school district;
- (c) Establish programs to reduce the truancy of pupils in the school district, including, without limitation, the coordination of services available in the community to assist with the intervention, diversion and discipline of pupils who are truant;
- (d) At least annually, evaluate the effectiveness of those programs;
- (e) Establish a procedure for schools and school districts for the reporting of the status of pupils as habitual truants; and
- (f) Inform the parents and legal guardians of the pupils who are enrolled in the schools within the district of the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- 2. The chair of an advisory board may divide the advisory board into subcommittees. The advisory board may delegate one or more of the duties of the advisory board to a subcommittee of the advisory board, including, without limitation, holding hearings pursuant to NRS 392.147. If the chair of an advisory board divides the advisory board into subcommittees, the chair shall notify the board of trustees of the school district of this action. Upon receipt of such a notice, the board of trustees shall establish rules and procedures for each such subcommittee. A subcommittee shall abide by the applicable rules and procedures when it takes action or makes decisions.
- 3. An advisory board to review school attendance may work with a family resource center or other provider of community services to provide assistance to pupils who are truant. The advisory board shall identify areas within the school district in which community services are not available to assist pupils who are truant. As used in this subsection, "family resource center" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 430A.040.
- 4. An advisory board to review school attendance created in a county pursuant to NRS 392.126 may use money appropriated by the Legislature and any other money made available to the advisory board for the use of programs to reduce the truancy of pupils in the school district. The advisory board to review school attendance shall, on a quarterly basis, provide to the board of trustees of the school district an accounting of the money used by the advisory board to review school attendance to reduce the truancy of pupils in the school district.
- **Sec. 37.** The preliminary chapter of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:





Except as otherwise expressly provided in a particular statute or required by the context, "charter school" means any public school that is formed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 388A of NRS.

Sec. 38. NRS 280.287 is hereby amended to read as follows:

280.287 1. The department may enter into a contract with the board of trustees of the school district located in the county served by the department for the provision and supervision of police services in the public schools within the school district and any charter school with which the board of trustees has entered into a contract for the provision of school police officers pursuant to NRS 388A.384 [...] or to which the board of trustees provides school police officers pursuant to section 26 of this act, and on property owned by the school district and, if applicable, on property owned or operated by a charter school. If the department enters into a contract pursuant to this section, the department shall create a separate unit designated as the school police unit for this purpose.

2. The department may establish different qualifications and training requirements for officers assigned to the school police unit than those generally applicable to officers of the department.

Sec. 39. NRS 288.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.150 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6 and NRS 354.6241, every local government employer shall negotiate in good faith through one or more representatives of its own choosing concerning the mandatory subjects of bargaining set forth in subsection 2 with the designated representatives of the recognized employee organization, if any, for each appropriate bargaining unit among its employees. If either party so requests, agreements reached must be reduced to writing.

- 2. The scope of mandatory bargaining is limited to:
- (a) Salary or wage rates or other forms of direct monetary compensation.
 - (b) Sick leave.

- (c) Vacation leave.
- (d) Holidays.
- (e) Other paid or nonpaid leaves of absence.
- (f) Insurance benefits.
- (g) Total hours of work required of an employee on each workday or workweek.
- (h) Total number of days' work required of an employee in a work year.
- (i) Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8, [and] 11 [,] and 12, discharge and disciplinary procedures.
 - (j) Recognition clause.





- (k) The method used to classify employees in the bargaining unit.
 - (1) Deduction of dues for the recognized employee organization.
 - (m) Protection of employees in the bargaining unit from discrimination because of participation in recognized employee organizations consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
 - (n) No-strike provisions consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
 - (o) Grievance and arbitration procedures for resolution of disputes relating to interpretation or application of collective bargaining agreements.
 - (p) General savings clauses.

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- (q) Duration of collective bargaining agreements.
- (r) Safety of the employee.
- (s) Teacher preparation time.
- (t) Materials and supplies for classrooms.
- (u) Except as otherwise provided in subsections 9, 11 and [11,] 12, the policies for the transfer and reassignment of teachers.
- (v) Procedures for reduction in workforce consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
- (w) Procedures consistent with the provisions of subsection 6 for the reopening of collective bargaining agreements for additional, further, new or supplementary negotiations during periods of fiscal emergency.
- Those subject matters which are not within the scope of mandatory bargaining and which are reserved to the local government employer without negotiation include:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (u) of subsection 2, the right to hire, direct, assign or transfer an employee, but excluding the right to assign or transfer an employee as a form of discipline.
- (b) The right to reduce in force or lay off any employee because of lack of work or lack of money, subject to paragraph (v) of subsection 2.
 - (c) The right to determine:
- (1) Appropriate staffing levels and work performance standards, except for safety considerations;
- (2) The content of the workday, including without limitation workload factors, except for safety considerations;
- 40 (3) The quality and quantity of services to be offered to the public; and
 - (4) The means and methods of offering those services.
 - (d) Safety of the public.
 - 4. The provisions of NRS 245.063, 268.4069 and 391.1605 are not subject to negotiations with an employee organization. Any





provision of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter which differs from or conflicts in any way with the provisions of NRS 245.063, 268.4069 or 391.1605 is unenforceable and void.

- 5. If the local government employer is a school district, any money appropriated by the State to carry out increases in salaries or benefits for the employees of the school district is subject to negotiations with an employee organization.
- 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter, a local government employer is entitled to:
- (a) Reopen a collective bargaining agreement for additional, further, new or supplementary negotiations relating to compensation or monetary benefits during a period of fiscal emergency. Negotiations must begin not later than 21 days after the local government employer notifies the employee organization that a fiscal emergency exists. For the purposes of this section, a fiscal emergency shall be deemed to exist:
- (1) If the amount of revenue received by the general fund of the local government employer during the last preceding fiscal year from all sources, except any nonrecurring source, declined by 5 percent or more from the amount of revenue received by the general fund from all sources, except any nonrecurring source, during the next preceding fiscal year, as reflected in the reports of the annual audits conducted for those fiscal years for the local government employer pursuant to NRS 354.624; or
- (2) If the local government employer has budgeted an unreserved ending fund balance in its general fund for the current fiscal year in an amount equal to 4 percent or less of the actual expenditures from the general fund for the last preceding fiscal year, and the local government employer has provided a written explanation of the budgeted ending fund balance to the Department of Taxation that includes the reason for the ending fund balance and the manner in which the local government employer plans to increase the ending fund balance.
- (b) Take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out its responsibilities in situations of emergency such as a riot, military action, natural disaster or civil disorder. Those actions may include the suspension of any collective bargaining agreement for the duration of the emergency.
- Any action taken under the provisions of this subsection must not be construed as a failure to negotiate in good faith.
- 7. The provisions of this chapter, including without limitation the provisions of this section, recognize and declare the ultimate right and responsibility of the local government employer to manage





its operation in the most efficient manner consistent with the best interests of all its citizens, its taxpayers and its employees.

- 8. If the sponsor of a charter school reconstitutes the governing body of a charter school pursuant to NRS 388A.330, the new governing body may terminate the employment of any teachers or other employees of the charter school, and any provision of any agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter that provides otherwise is unenforceable and void.
- 9. The board of trustees of a school district in which a school is designated as a turnaround school pursuant to NRS 388G.400 or the principal of such a school, as applicable, may take any action authorized pursuant to NRS 388G.400, including, without limitation:
 - (a) Reassigning any member of the staff of such a school; or
- (b) If the staff member of another public school consents, reassigning that member of the staff of the other public school to such a school.
- 10. Any provision of an agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter which differs from or conflicts in any way with the provisions of subsection 9 or imposes consequences on the board of trustees of a school district or the principal of a school for taking any action authorized pursuant to subsection 9 is unenforceable and void.
- 11. The board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils may use a substantiated report of the abuse or neglect of a child or a violation of NRS 201.540, 201.560, 392.4633 or 394.366 obtained from the Statewide Central Registry for the Collection of Information Concerning the Abuse or Neglect of a Child established by NRS 432.100 or an equivalent registry maintained by a governmental agency in another jurisdiction for the purposes authorized by NRS 388A.515, 388C.200, 391.033, 391.104 or 391.281, as applicable. Such purposes may include, without limitation, making a determination concerning the assignment, discipline or termination of an employee. Any provision of any agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter which conflicts with the provisions of this subsection is unenforceable and void.
- 12. The board of trustees of a school district may terminate the employment of or reassign any member of the staff of a school that is converted to a Department charter school pursuant to sections 15 to 27, inclusive, of this act and any provision of any agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter which provides otherwise is unenforceable and void.
- 13. This section does not preclude, but this chapter does not require, the local government employer to negotiate subject matters





enumerated in subsection 3 which are outside the scope of mandatory bargaining. The local government employer shall discuss subject matters outside the scope of mandatory bargaining but it is not required to negotiate those matters.

- [13.] 14. Contract provisions presently existing in signed and ratified agreements as of May 15, 1975, at 12 p.m. remain negotiable.
 - [14.] 15. As used in this section [, "abuse]:
- (a) "Abuse or neglect of a child" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 392.281.
- (b) "Department charter school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385.007.
- **Sec. 40.** The provisions of section 20 of this act apply to any public school regardless of any other designations or programs to which the school may already be included.
- **Sec. 41.** The provisions of NRS 288.150, as amended by section 39 of this act:
- 1. Apply to any collective bargaining agreement entered into, extended or renewed on or after July 1, 2024, and any provision of the agreement that is in conflict with that section, as amended, is void.
- 2. Do not apply to any collective bargaining agreement entered into before July 1, 2024, during the current term of the agreement.
- **Sec. 42.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.
- **Sec. 43.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.
- **Sec. 44.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 1 to 43, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On July 1, 2024, for all other purposes.





