
SENATE BILL NO. 115—SENATORS CRUZ-CRAWFORD AND DOÑATE

PREFILED JANUARY 27, 2025

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMEMBER MOORE

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to bilingual education. (BDR 34-790)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 3)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the board of trustees of a school district or governing body of a charter school to provide a stipend to teachers who teach pupils enrolled in a program of bilingual education; requiring information concerning such stipends to be included in certain reports prepared by the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations requiring teachers to hold an endorsement to teach pupils enrolled in a program of bilingual education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates the Commission on Professional Standards in Education
2 and requires the Commission to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for
3 licensing teachers and other educational personnel. (NRS 391.011, 391.019) Under
4 existing law, such regulations must include a requirement that to be eligible to
5 teach in a field of specialization, a teacher is required to obtain from the
6 Department of Education an endorsement in that field of specialization, unless the
7 Superintendent of Public Instruction approves a request submitted by the board of
8 trustees of a school district to employ licensed teachers who do not hold an
9 endorsement to teach in a subject area for which there is a shortage of teachers at a



10 public school within the district. (NRS 391.019, 391.125) Existing regulations: (1)
11 require that to teach pupils enrolled in a program of bilingual education, a person
12 must hold an endorsement issued by the Department to teach pupils in a program of
13 bilingual education and pass an examination or assessment to demonstrate language
14 proficiency; and (2) establish the requirements for a person to obtain such an
15 endorsement. (NAC 391.059, 391.242) **Section 4** of this bill specifically requires
16 the regulations adopted by the Commission to include a requirement that to teach
17 pupils enrolled in a program of bilingual education, a person must hold an
18 endorsement issued by the Department to teach pupils in a program of bilingual
19 education. **Section 3** of this bill requires the board of trustees of a school district or
20 the governing body of a charter school to provide a stipend of \$2,500 each school
21 year to each teacher who is assigned to teach pupils enrolled in a program of
22 bilingual education and who holds an endorsement to teach pupils enrolled in a
23 program of bilingual education. For the purposes of **sections 3 and 4**, a “program
24 of bilingual education” is defined as a program of instruction for English learners in
25 which pupils are taught the English language and the content of other courses of
26 study is taught in the pupil’s primary language.

27 Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district and the
28 governing body of each charter school to submit an annual report to certain entities
29 that includes certain information on budgets and expenditures. (NRS 387.303,
30 388A.345) **Sections 1 and 2** of this bill require such a report to additionally include
31 information on the number of employees who received the stipend described in
32 **section 3** in the preceding and then-current fiscal years.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 387.303 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 387.303 1. Not later than November 1 of each year, the board
3 of trustees of each school district shall submit to the Superintendent
4 of Public Instruction and the Department of Taxation a report which
5 includes the following information:

6 (a) For each fund within the school district, including, without
7 limitation, the school district’s general fund and any special revenue
8 fund which receives state money, the total number and salaries of
9 licensed and nonlicensed persons whose salaries are paid from the
10 fund and who are employed by the school district in full-time
11 positions or in part-time positions added together to represent full-
12 time positions. Information must be provided for the current school
13 year based upon the school district’s final budget, including any
14 amendments and augmentations thereto, and for the preceding
15 school year. An employee must be categorized as filling an
16 instructional, administrative, instructional support or other position.

17 (b) The school district’s actual expenditures in the fiscal year
18 immediately preceding the report.

19 (c) The school district’s proposed expenditures for the current
20 fiscal year.



1 (d) The schedule of salaries for licensed employees in the
2 current school year and a statement of whether the negotiations
3 regarding salaries for the current school year have been completed.
4 If the negotiations have not been completed at the time the schedule
5 of salaries is submitted, the board of trustees shall submit a
6 supplemental report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction upon
7 completion of negotiations or the determination of an arbitrator
8 concerning the negotiations that includes the schedule of salaries
9 agreed to or required by the arbitrator.

10 (e) The number of employees who received an increase in salary
11 pursuant to NRS 391.161, 391.162 or 391.163 for the current and
12 preceding fiscal years. If the board of trustees is required to pay an
13 increase in salary retroactively pursuant to NRS 391.161, the board
14 of trustees shall submit a supplemental report to the Superintendent
15 of Public Instruction not later than February 15 of the year in which
16 the retroactive payment was made that includes the number of
17 teachers to whom an increase in salary was paid retroactively.

18 (f) The number of employees eligible for health insurance within
19 the school district for the current and preceding fiscal years and the
20 amount paid for health insurance for each such employee during
21 those years.

22 (g) The rates for fringe benefits, excluding health insurance,
23 paid by the school district for its licensed employees in the
24 preceding and current fiscal years.

25 (h) The amount paid for extra duties, supervision of
26 extracurricular activities and supplemental pay and the number of
27 employees receiving that pay in the preceding and current fiscal
28 years.

29 *(i) The number of employees who received a stipend pursuant*
30 *to section 3 of this act in the preceding and current fiscal years.*

31 2. On or before November 25 of each year, the Superintendent
32 of Public Instruction shall submit to the Office of Finance and the
33 Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, in a
34 format approved by the Director of the Office of Finance, a
35 compilation of the reports made by each school district pursuant to
36 subsection 1.

37 3. In preparing the agency biennial budget request for the State
38 Education Fund for submission to the Office of Finance, the
39 Superintendent of Public Instruction:

40 (a) Shall compile the information from the most recent
41 compilation of reports submitted pursuant to subsection 2; and

42 (b) May consider the cost of enhancements to existing programs
43 or the projected cost of proposed new educational programs,
44 regardless of whether those enhancements or new programs are



1 included in the adjusted base per pupil funding for inclusion in the
2 biennial budget request to the Office of Finance.

3 4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, in the
4 compilation required by subsection 2, reconcile the revenues of the
5 school districts with the apportionment received by those districts
6 from the State Education Fund for the preceding year.

7 5. The request prepared pursuant to subsection 3 must:

8 (a) Be presented by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to
9 such standing committees of the Legislature as requested by the
10 standing committees for the purposes of developing educational
11 programs and providing appropriations for those programs; and

12 (b) Provide for a direct comparison of appropriations to the
13 proposed budget of the Governor submitted pursuant to subsection 4
14 of NRS 353.230.

15 **Sec. 2.** NRS 388A.345 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 388A.345 1. On or before November 1 of each year, the
17 governing body of each charter school shall submit to the sponsor of
18 the charter school, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the
19 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the
20 Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly a
21 report that includes:

22 (a) A written description of the progress of the charter school in
23 achieving the mission and goals of the charter school set forth in its
24 application.

25 (b) For each fund maintained by the charter school, including,
26 without limitation, the general fund of the charter school and any
27 special revenue fund which receives state money, the total number
28 and salaries of licensed and nonlicensed persons whose salaries are
29 paid from the fund and who are employed by the governing body in
30 full-time positions or in part-time positions added together to
31 represent full-time positions. Information must be provided for the
32 current school year based upon the final budget of the charter
33 school, including any amendments and augmentations thereto, and
34 for the preceding school year. An employee must be categorized as
35 filling an instructional, administrative, instructional support or other
36 position.

37 (c) The actual expenditures of the charter school in the fiscal
38 year immediately preceding the report.

39 (d) The proposed expenditures of the charter school for the
40 current fiscal year.

41 (e) The salary schedule for licensed employees and nonlicensed
42 teachers in the current school year and a statement of whether salary
43 negotiations for the current school year have been completed. If
44 salary negotiations have not been completed at the time the salary
45 schedule is submitted, the governing body shall submit a



1 supplemental report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction upon
2 completion of negotiations.

3 (f) The number of employees eligible for health insurance within
4 the charter school for the current and preceding fiscal years and the
5 amount paid for health insurance for each such employee during
6 those years.

7 (g) The rates for fringe benefits, excluding health insurance,
8 paid by the charter school for its licensed employees in the
9 preceding and current fiscal years.

10 (h) The amount paid for extra duties, supervision of
11 extracurricular activities and supplemental pay and the number of
12 employees receiving that pay in the preceding and current fiscal
13 years.

14 *(i) The number of employees who received a stipend pursuant*
15 *to section 3 of this act in the preceding and current fiscal years.*

16 2. On or before November 25 of each year, the Superintendent
17 of Public Instruction shall submit to the Office of Finance and the
18 Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, in a
19 format approved by the Director of the Office of Finance, a
20 compilation of the reports made by each governing body pursuant to
21 subsection 1.

22 3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, in the
23 compilation required by subsection 2, reconcile the revenues and
24 expenditures of the charter schools with the apportionment received
25 by those schools from the State Education Fund for the preceding
26 year.

27 **Sec. 3.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
28 thereto a new section to read as follows:

29 *1. Each school year, the board of trustees of a school district*
30 *or the governing body of a charter school shall provide a stipend*
31 *in the amount of \$2,500 to each teacher who:*

32 *(a) Is assigned to teach pupils enrolled in a program of*
33 *bilingual education; and*

34 *(b) Holds an endorsement to teach pupils enrolled in a*
35 *program of bilingual education.*

36 *2. A teacher may not receive a stipend pursuant to this*
37 *section more than once per school year.*

38 *3. As used in this section, "program of bilingual education"*
39 *means a program of instruction for English learners in which*
40 *pupils are taught the English language and the content of other*
41 *courses of study is taught using the pupil's primary language.*

42 **Sec. 4.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

43 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
44 the Commission shall adopt regulations:



1 (a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other
2 educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and
3 renewal of those licenses. The regulations:

4 (1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for
5 licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route
6 to licensure which provides that the required education and training
7 may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved
8 by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of
9 higher education and other providers that operate independently of
10 an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant
11 to this subparagraph must:

12 (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified
13 provider;

14 (II) Require a qualified provider to be selective in its
15 acceptance of students;

16 (III) Require a qualified provider to provide in-person or
17 virtual supervised, school-based experiences and ongoing support
18 for its students, such as mentoring and coaching;

19 (IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work
20 required or provide for the waiver of required course work for
21 students who achieve certain scores on tests;

22 (V) Allow for the completion in 2 years or less of the
23 education and training required under the alternative route to
24 licensure;

25 (VI) Provide that a person who has completed the
26 education and training required under the alternative route to
27 licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure
28 may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph (VII)
29 regardless of whether the person has received an offer of
30 employment from a school district, charter school or private school;
31 and

32 (VII) Upon the completion by a person of the education
33 and training required under the alternative route to licensure and the
34 satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure, provide for the
35 issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant to the provisions
36 of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

37 (2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle
38 school or junior high school education or secondary education to
39 demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of
40 concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by
41 the Department or completing a subject matter competency
42 examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed
43 satisfactory.

44 (3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more
45 stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a



1 licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance
2 with that section.

3 (b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require
4 the specialized training of teachers.

5 (c) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring
6 teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of
7 specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

8 (d) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must
9 satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

10 (e) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for
11 obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign
12 Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the
13 Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health
14 and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the
15 practice of sign language interpreting in a primary or secondary
16 educational setting.

17 (f) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be
18 registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division pursuant
19 to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of sign language
20 interpreting in a primary or secondary educational setting if they:

21 (1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

22 (2) Concurrently engage in the practice of sign language
23 interpreting, as defined in NRS 656A.060.

24 (g) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family
25 engagement. The Commission shall:

26 (1) Work in cooperation with the Office of Parental
27 Involvement and Family Engagement created by NRS 385.630 in
28 developing the regulations required by this paragraph.

29 (2) Establish standards for professional development training
30 which may be used to satisfy any course work requirement
31 prescribed pursuant to this paragraph.

32 (h) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement
33 on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational
34 personnel in cultural competency.

35 (i) Authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue
36 a license by endorsement to an applicant who holds an equivalent
37 license or authorization issued by a governmental entity in another
38 country if the Superintendent determines that the qualifications for
39 the equivalent license or authorization are substantially similar to
40 those prescribed pursuant to paragraph (a).

41 (j) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement
42 on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational
43 personnel in teaching courses relating to financial literacy.

44 (k) Authorizing a person who is employed as a paraprofessional
45 and enrolled in a program to become a teacher to complete an



1 accelerated program of student teaching in the same or a
2 substantially similar area in which the person is employed as a
3 paraprofessional while remaining employed as a paraprofessional.

4 (l) Requiring the Department to accept a program of student
5 teaching or other teaching experience completed in another state or
6 foreign country by an applicant for a license if the Department
7 determines that the program or experience substantially fulfills the
8 standards of a program of student teaching in this State.

9 (m) Authorizing a person who is employed by a public school to
10 provide support or other services relating to school psychology, if
11 the person does not hold a license or endorsement as a school
12 psychologist but is enrolled in a program that would allow the
13 person to obtain such a license or endorsement, to complete a
14 program of internship in school psychology while remaining
15 employed in such a position.

16 (n) *Requiring that, to teach pupils enrolled in a program of*
17 *bilingual education, a teacher obtain an endorsement to teach*
18 *pupils enrolled in a program of bilingual education. As used in*
19 *this paragraph, "program of bilingual education" has the*
20 *meaning ascribed to it in section 3 of this act.*

21 (o) To carry out the provisions of NRS 391B.010.

22 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the
23 Commission may adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary
24 for its own government or to carry out its duties.

25 3. Any regulation which increases the amount of education,
26 training or experience required for licensing:

27 (a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in
28 chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner
29 reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the
30 change.

31 (b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date
32 it is adopted by the Commission.

33 (c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the
34 regulation becomes effective.

35 **Sec. 5.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
36 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
37 provisions of this act.

38 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

