SENATE BILL NO. 58-COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

Prefiled November 20, 2024

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing grants for certain prekindergarten programs. (BDR 34-272)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to education; revising provisions governing the children who must be served by a prekindergarten program supported by certain grants from the Department of Education; establishing the method for determining the amount awarded for such grants; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes a program, known as Nevada Ready! State Pre K, that requires the Department of Education, to the extent money is available, to award grants of money to school districts, sponsors of charter schools and nonprofit organizations to support prekindergarten programs that meet certain standards. Under existing law, a prekindergarten program that is supported by such a grant is required to satisfy certain requirements concerning the children it serves. (NRS 387.652) This bill increases the maximum household income level of the children that must be served by a prekindergarten program supported by such a grant. This bill additionally authorizes a prekindergarten program to qualify to be supported by such a grant by serving children who have a household income below that level or who, regardless of household income level, have: (1) an individualized education program; or (2) a documented need for behavioral, social or emotional supports. Finally, this bill provides that the amount of such a grant is determined by multiplying certain adjusted base per pupil funding amounts by the number of children served by the prekindergarten program.



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

Section 1. NRS 387.652 is hereby amended to read as follows: 387.652 1. The Department shall, to the extent money is available, award grants of money to school districts, sponsors of charter schools and nonprofit organizations to support prekindergarten programs. Each prekindergarten program supported by a grant awarded pursuant to this section must:

- (a) Employ at least one teacher per classroom who has a bachelor's degree or higher in early childhood education and compensate those teachers with pay and benefits similar to those provided to licensed teachers by the school district in which the prekindergarten program is located;
- (b) Serve children who are 4 years of age at the beginning of the school year and [whose]:
- (1) Whose household has a household income which is not more than [200] 250 percent of the federally designated level signifying poverty;
 - (2) Who have an individualized education program; or
- (3) Who have a documented need for behavioral, social or emotional supports;
- (c) Provide instruction in prekindergarten for at least 25 hours each week for the entire school year;
- (d) Utilize a comprehensive curriculum for prekindergarten that is aligned to any standards of content and performance established for prekindergarten pursuant to NRS 389.520;
- (e) Maintain the size of each class at not more than 20 pupils and a ratio of not more than 10 pupils for each adult with supervision in the classroom;
- (f) Participate in any evaluation of the program or the pupils who participate in the program that is prescribed by the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 387.656;
- (g) Effectively engage the parents or guardians of pupils and participate in any evaluation of such engagement that is required by the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 387.656;
- (h) Serve pupils with disabilities at a rate that is not less than the percentage of pupils in this State or in the United States, whichever is greater, who are 4 years of age at the beginning of the school year who receive services funded pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1419;
- (i) Ensure that the percentage of pupils with disabilities in each class is less than 49 percent of the total number of pupils;
- (j) Provide appropriate individualized accommodations and supports for pupils with disabilities;





- (k) Provide the comprehensive services prescribed pursuant to NRS 387.656; and
- (1) Meet the minimum standards of performance prescribed pursuant to NRS 387.656.
- 2. If a school district, sponsor of a charter school or nonprofit organization is awarded a grant of money pursuant to this section, the Department shall determine the amount of the grant by:
- (a) For a school district or charter school, multiplying the adjusted base per pupil funding amount established for that school district or charter school for that school year by the number of children served by the applicable prekindergarten program; or
- (b) For a nonprofit organization, multiplying the adjusted base per pupil funding amount established for a charter school in the county in which the prekindergarten program provided by a nonprofit organization is located by the number of children served by the applicable prekindergarten program.
- 3. The board of trustees of a school district, the sponsor of a charter school or a nonprofit organization that wishes to receive a grant of money pursuant to this section must submit an application to the Department. The application must include, without limitation:
- (a) A detailed description of the manner in which the board of trustees, sponsor of a charter school or nonprofit organization proposes to:
- (1) Ensure that the prekindergarten program supported by the grant meets the requirements of subsection 1; and
 - (2) Use the grant of money; and
 - (b) Any other information required by the Department.
- 4. As used in this section, "individualized education program" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. \S 1414(d)(1)(A).
 - **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.





