



# SESSION SPOTLIGHT

**March 5, 2021**

As week 5 of the 81st Nevada Legislative Session winds down, things were relatively quiet across the legislative education committees this week as it related to topics affecting pre kindergarten through twelfth grade. As mentioned in previous Session Spotlight's, the deadline for legislator bill draft requests BDR introductions is Monday, March 15, so legislators are working closely with the Legislative Counsel Bureau to ensure that the language for their BDR are ready and introduced prior to the deadline. With over 1,100 BDRs in process and only 401 bills introduced so far, hundreds of bills will come out between now and March 15th. As always, we will keep you updated on those bills affecting education throughout this legislative session.

## **SB66 - Bridging the Digital Divide Work Session**

After the Senate Committee on Education heard the initial presentation on SB66 [last week](#), this past Monday, the [Committee scheduled a work session](#) and unanimously approved the amended version of SB66. It will now head to the floor for a full vote by the Senate. As a quick reminder, SB66 is the Clark County School District's bill draft that looks to address internet connectivity by having the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology gather data on student access to the internet with the help of school districts.

## **Crisis Support Center Contact Information on Student IDs**

At Thursday's [Assembly Committee on Education meeting](#), Assemblyman Glen Leavitt presented AB167 that would include the Crisis Support Hotline number on student identification cards. This would be in addition to the SafeVoice contact information already included in students identification to give an added resource for students that need to talk to someone.

## **Want to Learn More?**

In case you didn't know:

How the legislative calendar works:

The Nevada Legislature is unique in how it operates. Its process is truly its own. At this point in the session you may have noticed the sheer volume of bills that have been and will be introduced. Soon many will be heard before their respective committees.

The reason so many bills are introduced in the span of a week can be explained by examining the [legislative calendar](#). Key dates and deadlines throughout the session move the process along, but also create what can only be described as "controlled chaos."

As mentioned in the next couple of weeks, the Nevada Legislature is about to reach its first major deadline, what is generally called “Legislator Bill Introduction.” This deadline requires that any bill that an individual legislator wants to be heard by a committee must be written and introduced by midnight of day 43 of the legislative session. Any BDR that misses this deadline is considered dead.

This will not be the only time the Nevada Legislature will experience a mad rush to meet a deadline. With the implementation of the 120-day calendar, these deadlines ensure the work of the legislature is done (mostly) on time. Mostly? Yes, because just as the 120-day calendar was adopted by the legislature as the framework for doing business, they also have the ability to change it, even mid-process. Case in point is the deadline we have been writing about each week. Back in 2015, it became apparent that the bill drafters could not finalize all of the bill draft requests they had received from individual legislators by the BDR deadline. The legislative body took action and extended the deadline by one day. As a result, in multiple floor sessions on Monday and Tuesday after the deadline, a total of 248 new bills were introduced.

Additional dates to be aware of that may cause just as much chaos as we may see this week:

#### March 23rd, Committees’ Bill Introductions

This is the deadline for committees to introduce legislation.

#### April 10th, First Committee Passage

This deadline requires that all bills (excluding those exempt from this rule) must pass their assigned committee.

#### April 21st, First House Passage

All bills (excluding those exempt from this rule) must pass their house of origin.

#### May 15th, Committee Passage (Second House)

This deadline requires that all bills (excluding those exempt from this rule) must pass their assigned committee of the 2nd house.

#### May 22nd, Second House Passage

All bills (excluding those exempt from this rule) must pass the 2nd house.

#### June 1st, Close of session (“Sine Die”)

Any bill that fails to meet these deadlines, unless they are exempt, will be considered dead.

For list of bills we are tracking click [here](#)

#### [Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of March 8, 2021.](#)

The [“Calendar of Meetings”](#) on the Nevada Legislature website provides up to date information regarding meetings.

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