



April 17, 2017

The first major bill deadline came this past week, narrowing the list down by over 250 bills. Education-related bills of interest that died include SB243 and SB381 on appointed school boards, AB103 on eliminating the Achievement School District, AB166 and AB225 on school start times, AB210 on community education advisory boards, AB212 on teacher evaluations, and SB359 on education savings accounts. While action can no longer be taken on some notable bills, iterations of several of them are still moving forward. This week we are providing a rundown of the actions taken by the education committees during their work session. For a full list of bills and their status, please see our tracking report [here](#).

Highlights from Week Ten

Monday, April 10

Assembly Education Work Session

Action: Amend and Do Pass

AB110 - Revises provisions governing the requirements for a pupil to receive credit for a course of study without attending the classes for the course; creates the Competency-Based Education Task Force.

AB202 - Revises provisions relating to the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program.

AB372 - Enacts the Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act.

AB451 - Requires a member of the board of trustees of a school district to complete certain training for professional development. (Amended to increase training hours to six and to include employee-management relations.)

Action: Do Pass

AB469 - Provides for the reorganization of large school districts in this State.

AB482 - Revises provisions relating to the proportion of the total amount of state money a school district or charter school may receive for programs of career and technical education.

Tuesday, April 11

Senate Education Work Session

Action: Amend and Do Pass

SB86 - Requires the provision of instruction in cursive handwriting to pupils enrolled in elementary school. (Amended to make the program permissive.)

SB108 - Revises requirements for the instruction in American government that is taught to pupils in public high schools. (Youth Legislature bill that requires the addition of criminal law to Nevada's social studies standards to be studied over the interim.)

SB164 - Authorizes a school district to lease school buses or vehicles belonging to the school district in certain circumstances.

SB458 - Revises provisions relating to the development and operation of the statewide longitudinal data system. Reconstitutes the P-20 Advisory Council to align Nevada's statewide longitudinal data system.

Action: Do Pass/Amend and Re-refer

SB143 - Requires each public school in a school district to establish and maintain a school library. (Re-referred to Finance due to fiscal note.)

SB154 - Creates the Program to Develop Leadership Skills for Elementary School Pupils. (Re-referred to Finance due to appropriation.)

SB166 - Establishes a program to survey pupils enrolled in public schools concerning the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs. (Re-referred to Finance due to appropriation.)

SB213 - Revises provisions relating to education. Allows for the Superintendent of Public Instruction to carry out an on-site inspection of a provider of special education. (Re-referred to Finance due to fiscal note.)

SB248 - Revises provisions relating to pupils with disabilities. Allows for a student with a disability to complete their final year of high school. (Re-referred to Finance due to fiscal note.)

SB391 - Provides for awards of scholarships by community colleges in the Nevada System of Higher Education. (Re-referred to Finance due to appropriation.)

Do Pass

SB310 - Revises provisions governing the credit-hour requirement for eligibility under the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program.

Wednesday, April 12

Assembly Education Work Session

Action: Amend and Do Pass

AB7 - Revises provisions governing the annual reports of accountability prepared by the State Board and each school district. (Amended to include graduation pathways, end-of-course exam changes, and other components to align with the Every Student Succeeds Act.)

AB77 - Revises provisions related to teachers and other educational personnel. (Amended to include changes to the English Mastery Council and various changes to licensure requirements.)

AB124 - Establishes a code of conduct governing interpersonal interactions and certain communications by teachers, administrators, and other employees with pupils. (Amended by the bill sponsor and the Nevada Department of Education to include a model code of ethics.)

AB196 - Provides for an endorsement that a teacher, administrator, or other educational personnel may obtain in culturally responsive educational leadership.

AB275 - Requires the establishment of a protocol for providing integrated student supports for certain pupils and their families. (Amended by the bill sponsor and the Nevada Department of Education.)

AB351 - Establishes a program of grants to be used by teachers to make payments on educational loans.

Thursday, April 13

Senate Education Work Session

Action: Amend and Do Pass

SB107 - Requires ethnic and diversity studies in public high schools. (Amended to make the course permissive.)

SB200 - Revises provisions relating to instruction in computer education and technology.

SB212 - Revises provisions governing the welfare of pupils; expands the scope of Nevada's Safe-to-Tell Program.

SB225 - Revises provisions relating to bullying and cyber-bullying. (Amended to include many of the provisions from SB294.)

SB249 - Requires instruction in financial literacy and economics in public schools. (Re-referred to Finance due to appropriation.)

SB252 - Revises provisions governing the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association.

SB273 - Revises provisions relating to the dismissal of a probationary employee of a school district.

SB322 - Requires passage of an examination in civics as a condition of receiving credit for a course in American government. (Amended to allow school districts to determine where and when the test should be given.)

SB369 - Revises provisions relating to public schools; requires school districts to create a program of professional development to improve a school's culture and climate. (Amended to allow School Organizational Teams to provide input and for a two-year delay for turnaround schools.)

SB386 - Revises provisions relating to progressive discipline and on-site review of disciplinary decisions.

SB467 - Revises provisions relating to technology in public schools; codifies policy for Nevada Ready 21 program.

Action: Re-referred

SB390 - Extends and revises the Zoom schools program for the 2017-2019 biennium. (Re-referred without recommendation to Finance due to appropriation; will be referred back to Education again for further policy discussion.)

SB430 - Eliminates the Achievement School District. (Re-referred without recommendation to Finance due to appropriation; will be referred back to Education again for further policy discussion.)

Friday, April 14

Assembly Education Work Session

Action: Amend and Do Pass

AB49 - Makes various changes relating to charter schools.

AB186 - Requires the board of trustees of each school district to establish, equip, and maintain a prekindergarten education program and a kindergarten in each elementary school or school attendance area in the district. (Amended to include appropriations to expand preschool capacity.)

AB188 - Reduces the minimum number of credit hours required per semester for eligibility for a grant awarded under the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program.

AB292 - Revises provisions relating to bullying and cyber-bullying in public schools. (Amended to send reports to principal supervisors rather than the board of trustees and to move students who are victims of substantiated bullying reports to another school.)

AB312 - Revises provisions relating to the statewide performance evaluation system for certain educational personnel. (Amended to require the State Board of Education to establish appropriate class-size ratios and eliminate NEPF provision.)

AB320 - Revises provisions relating to pupil achievement data as a component of the statewide performance evaluation system for employees and revises provisions relating to the number of evaluations that certain employees are required to receive. (Amended to require pupil achievement data (SLGs) to be used for 20 percent of the evaluation, to replace “minimally effective” with “developing,” to require a process for peer evaluations, to change evaluation frequency for highly effective teachers, and to add one member to the Teachers and Leaders Council.)

AB400 - Requires the board of trustees of a school district or governing body of a charter school to transfer the copyright for certain instructional materials or tools to an employee of the school district or charter school. (Amended to include only instructional textbooks.)

AB407 - Establishes geographical regions of the State for the purposes of cooperative extension programs placing the operation of the programs in the respective regions under the control of the presidents of the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or their designees.

AB409 - Revises provisions relating to the subject area of reading by third grade (Amended to reinstate the retention provision and to require parent involvement in the decision.)

AB434 - Makes appropriations to provide incentives for new teachers and teachers at Title I and underperforming schools.

AB491 - Provides that a child in foster care remain enrolled in his or her school of origin, providing that the relevant agency which provides child welfare services and the local education agency are jointly liable for the costs of transportation for the child in foster care to attend his or her school of origin.

AB348 - Requires the board of trustees of each school district to establish an evidence-based, age-appropriate, and medically accurate course of instruction in sex education. (Amended to remove many of the changes, including opt-out, and to require districts to report on participation.)

Want to Learn More?

Since Nevada's budget is built in two-year cycles, much of how the budget is put together is based on conjecture and speculation about how much revenue the State will collect in the future. These projections are provided by Nevada's Economic Forum. The Economic Forum consists of appointed members from qualified industry, tax, and financial leaders from across the state. Their job is to look at Nevada's previous economic growth, future possible growth, and predict the revenue that will be collected over the next two years.

On May 1, 2017, Nevada's Economic Forum will meet and will indicate the amount of funding legislators can use to establish the budgets of every agency and department in Nevada's government. Starting May 5, the Legislature will then begin deciding which bills can fit into their budget and what additional monies might be needed to pay for them. This process includes determining the level of funding for the Distributive School Account, the account that provides money for all of Nevada's public schools.

All of these budget reconciliations must be finished by May 21.

Coming Up:

Most committees are canceled for the first few days this coming week due to extended floor sessions, so very few bill hearings will take place.

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