

March 18, 2021

Well it happened, on the March 5th edition of the Session Spotlight, we mentioned that the Legislature has the power to change deadlines as needed. That is exactly what happened when the Legislature waived the deadline for Legislator Bill Introductions (originally scheduled for March 15) and pushed it to March 22nd. This has been a unique session in many regards so there is a possibility this may not be the last deadline waived. Despite that, many bills were introduced this week and many more were heard in Committees.

Senate Committee on Education

The Senate Committee on Education on Monday heard bill presentations on SB102 and SB202. SB102 changes the date a child is required to be 5 years old to attend kindergarten, 6 years old for first grade, and 7 years old for second grade from the current date of September 30th to August 1st. SB202 requires school districts to count credits in computer coding as a foreign language credit.

At <u>Wednesday's meeting</u>, Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop presented SB173 which asks school districts to submit a plan to address learning loss by offering free summer school to students. The bill also authorizes school districts to use funds from the federal government to pay for such a program if school districts choose to hold summer school.

Assembly Committee on Education

On Tuesday, the Assembly Committee on Education <u>listened to a presentation by</u> Assemblywoman Venicia Considine on AB215 which allows a 17 year old to earn a diploma through adult education if they attended high school for four years but were credit deficient. This would only affect a few students each year and allow them to receive an actual diploma instead of having to wait until they are 18 years old.

On <u>Thursday</u>, the Committee voted the following bills out of committee and ordered them to the Assembly floor for a final vote:

- AB68 Charter School Applications Period
- AB88 Policies for School Names and Mascots
- AB167 Crisis Center Phone Number on Student ID Cards

Nevada Department of Education Budget Hearings

This morning, the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and Senate Committee on Finance's Subcommittee on K-12/Higher Education met to receive budget briefings from the Nevada Department of Education. During this hearing, the Department provided information regarding the school remediation trust fund, school safety, bullying prevention account. A discussion also took place for which accounts will transfer into the new pupil-centered funding plan. The Nevada Department of Education's presentation can be found here.

Want to Learn More?

At times, it can feel like the Nevada Legislature has its own language. For years the Nevada Legislature has existed and rules have been created to ensure the work is done as efficiently as possible. With these rules comes a vernacular that may seem strange or foreign. For veterans to the legislative process, the vocabulary needed to navigate through the 120 days may seem like second nature, but for someone new to the process, they must quickly catch up or get left behind.

Luckily, the Legislative Council Bureau has put together an index of legislative terminology that covers the majority of terms you will come across while participating in the legislative process. The list is not exhaustive but it is a great tool to refer to should you come across a question while attending a hearing or floor session. You can find the Legislative Terminology at the following link:

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Publications/LegManual/2019/AppF.pdf.

For a list of bills we are tracking click <u>here</u>.

Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of March 22, 2021

The <u>"Calendar of Meetings"</u> on the Nevada Legislature website provides up to date information regarding meetings.

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