

SENATE BILL NO. 104—SENATOR PAZINA

PREFILED JANUARY 21, 2025

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes an appropriation to the Other State Education Programs Account for the creation and maintenance of school gardens. (BDR S-539)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT making an appropriation for allocation to nonprofit organizations to provide programs for the creation and maintenance of school gardens; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
2 General Fund to the Other State Education Programs Account in the
3 State General Fund for the cost of creating and maintaining
4 programs for school gardens that meet the requirements of
5 subsection 3 the following sums:

6 For the Fiscal Year 2025-2026..... \$2,000,000
7 For the Fiscal Year 2026-2027..... \$2,000,000

8 2. The Department of Education shall allocate the money
9 appropriated by subsection 1 to nonprofit organizations to provide at
10 a public school a program for a school garden which meets the
11 requirements set forth in subsection 3.

12 3. For a nonprofit organization to receive an allocation of
13 money to provide a program for a school garden pursuant to
14 subsection 2, the program must:

- 15 (a) Create and maintain a school garden at the school.
- 16 (b) Have a curriculum that:



1 (1) Includes a comprehensive science, technology,
2 engineering and mathematics school garden program. Such a
3 program must include, without limitation, a science, technology,
4 engineering and mathematics curriculum for outdoor or hydroponic
5 gardens for pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 that is tailored
6 to pupils of the appropriate grade levels at the school;

7 (2) Is written specifically for Nevada and the desert
8 environment of Nevada;

9 (3) Complies with the standards of content and performance
10 for a course of study in science adopted by the State Board of
11 Education pursuant to NRS 389.520;

12 (4) Uses experiential learning or project-based learning to
13 teach science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics;

14 (5) Is designed with the assistance of teachers and other
15 educational personnel with experience at the appropriate grade
16 levels at the school; and

17 (6) Involves supervised learning experiences for the pupils at
18 the school in a classroom and a school garden.

19 (c) Provide the school with assistance from members of the
20 community, including, without limitation, trained educators, local
21 farmers and local chefs.

22 (d) Provide pupils with the:

23 (1) Ability to operate a farmer's market to sell the produce
24 from the school garden; and

25 (2) Opportunity to have a local chef or employee of a school
26 who works in food services demonstrate how to cook a meal using
27 the produce grown from the school garden.

28 (e) Establish garden teams comprised of teachers and, if such
29 persons are available, parents and members of the community. Each
30 garden team shall meet at least once each month.

31 (f) Require any local nonprofit or community-based
32 organization which will provide services to implement the program
33 for a school garden to have at least 2 years of experience
34 implementing such a program.

35 4. Money allocated pursuant to subsection 2 may be used to:

36 (a) Provide professional development for teachers regarding the:

37 (1) Use of a school garden to teach pupils with disabilities,
38 including, without limitation, training for teaching such pupils
39 science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum and
40 vocational training to create a career path in horticulture;

41 (2) Development and implementation of science, technology,
42 engineering, arts and mathematics curricula that incorporate the use
43 of a school garden;

44 (3) Development and implementation of training that may be
45 provided to a group or individually to teachers in how to establish



1 and maintain school gardens to increase the time teachers allocate to
2 teaching science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and

3 (4) Development and implementation of a food safety plan
4 designed to ensure that food grown in a school garden is properly
5 handled and safe to sell and consume;

6 (b) Pay for any travel expenses associated with the attendance of
7 a teacher at any training or conference relating to school gardens;
8 and

9 (c) Pay for the costs of a conference regarding school gardens
10 held in this State.

11 5. As used in this section:

12 (a) "Public school" has the meaning ascribed to it in
13 NRS 385.007.

14 (b) "School garden" includes, without limitation, a hydroponic
15 garden.

16 **Sec. 2.** Upon acceptance of the money allocated pursuant to
17 section 1 of this act, a nonprofit organization agrees to:

18 1. Prepare and transmit a report to the Interim Finance
19 Committee on or before October 1, 2026, that describes each
20 expenditure made from the money allocated pursuant to section 1 of
21 this act from the date on which the money was received by the
22 nonprofit organization through June 30, 2026;

23 2. Prepare and transmit a final report to the Interim Finance
24 Committee on or before October 1, 2027, that describes each
25 expenditure made from the money allocated pursuant to section 1 of
26 this act from the date on which the money was received by the
27 nonprofit organization through June 30, 2027; and

28 3. Upon request of the Legislative Commission, make available
29 to the Legislative Auditor any of the books, accounts, claims,
30 reports, vouchers or other records of information, confidential or
31 otherwise, of the nonprofit organization, regardless of their form or
32 location, that the Legislative Auditor deems necessary to conduct an
33 audit of the use of the money allocated pursuant to section 1 of this
34 act.

35 **Sec. 3.** Any balance of the sums appropriated by section 1 of
36 this act remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not
37 be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal
38 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
39 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
40 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
41 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
42 September 18, 2026, and September 17, 2027, respectively, by
43 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity
44 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and



1 must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before
2 September 18, 2026, and September 17, 2027, respectively.

3 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

