

Senate Bill No. 345—Senators Woodhouse, Parks, Ford, Denis, Smith; Jones, Kihuen, Manendo, Segerblom and Spearman

Joint Sponsors: Assemblywomen
Dondero Loop; and Swank

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; creating the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; prescribing the membership and duties of the Council; requiring the Council to submit to the State Board of Education, the Governor and the Legislature a written report which includes recommendations concerning the instruction and curriculum in courses of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in public schools in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 1 of this bill creates the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics within the Department of Education. The members of the Council include: (1) the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee; (2) the Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education or his or her designee; (3) the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development or his or her designee; (4) the Director of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation or his or her designee; and (5) 13 members appointed by the Governor, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Assembly from among persons who are classroom teachers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, administrators of public schools or school districts with an education program relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics or persons who represent businesses that employ persons in careers which are enhanced by education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Section 2 of this bill requires the Council to develop: (1) a strategic plan for the development of educational resources in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to serve as a foundation for workforce development, college preparedness and economic development in this State; (2) a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to pupils in this State who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and (3) a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to not more than 15 schools in this State that demonstrate exemplary performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. **Section 2** also requires the Council to conduct a survey of education programs and proposed programs relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in this State and in other states to identify recommendations for the implementation of such programs by public schools in this State. **Section 2** further requires the Council to submit to the State Board of Education, the Governor and the Legislature a report which includes recommendations concerning the instruction and curriculum in courses of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in public schools in this State. Additionally, **section 2** requires the Council to apply for



grants on behalf of the State of Nevada relating to the development and expansion of education programs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and to identify a nonprofit corporation to assist in the implementation of the programs developed by the Council. **Section 2** also requires the State Board to consider the plans and reports of the Council and adopt such regulations to carry out the Council's recommendations as the State Board deems necessary.

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

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

Section 1. 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is hereby created within the Department of Education. The Council consists of:

(a) The following ex officio members:

(1) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee;

(2) The Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education or his or her designee;

(3) The Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development or his or her designee; and

(4) The Director of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation or his or her designee;

(b) Three members appointed by the Governor pursuant to subsection 2;

(c) Four members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate pursuant to subsections 2 and 3;

(d) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly pursuant to subsections 2 and 3;

(e) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate pursuant to subsection 4; and

(f) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Assembly pursuant to subsection 4.

2. The Governor, Majority Leader of the Senate and Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint:

(a) One member who is a classroom teacher in the field of science, technology, engineering or mathematics;

(b) One member who is an administrator of a public school or school district in this State with an education program relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and

(c) One member who represents businesses that employ persons in careers which are enhanced by education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including, without limitation, careers



relating to manufacturing, information technology, aerospace engineering, health sciences and mining.

3. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint one additional member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.

4. The Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall each appoint one member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.

5. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Council must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.

6. The Council shall hold its first regular meeting as soon as practicable on or after July 1, 2013, at the call of the Governor. At the first regular meeting of the Council, the members of the Council shall elect a Chair by majority vote.

7. The Council shall meet not more than four times each year at the call of the Chair.

8. A majority of the members of the Council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of those members present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the Council.

9. The Chair may appoint such subcommittees of the Council as the Chair determines necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

10. The members of the Council serve without compensation.

Sec. 2. 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics created by section 1 of this act shall:

(a) Develop a strategic plan for the development of educational resources in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to serve as a foundation for workforce development, college preparedness and economic development in this State;

(b) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to pupils in this State who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(c) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to not more than 15 schools in this State that demonstrate exemplary performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(d) Conduct a survey of education programs and proposed programs relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in this State and in other states to identify recommendations for the implementation of such programs by



public schools in this State and report the information gathered by the survey to the State Board of Education;

(e) Apply for grants on behalf of the State of Nevada relating to the development and expansion of education programs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(f) Identify a nonprofit corporation to assist in the implementation of the plans developed pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); and

(g) Prepare a written report which includes, without limitation, recommendations based on the survey conducted pursuant to paragraph (d) and any other recommendations concerning the instruction and curriculum in courses of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in public schools in this State and, on or before January 31 of each odd-numbered year, submit a copy of the report to the State Board of Education, the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature.

2. The Council or a subcommittee of the Council may seek the input, advice and assistance of persons and organizations that have knowledge, interest or expertise relevant to the duties of the Council.

3. The State Board of Education shall consider the plans developed by the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 1 and the written report submitted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1 and adopt such regulations as the State Board deems necessary to carry out the recommendations in the written report.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013, and expires by limitation on June 30, 2017.

