

SENATE BILL NO. 72—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

PREFILED JANUARY 23, 2023

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Directs the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education to conduct certain studies during the 2023-2024 interim. (BDR S-441)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to education; directing the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education to conduct certain studies during the 2023-2024 interim and report its findings to the Legislature; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education. (NRS
2 218E.320) Existing law authorizes the Committee to: (1) evaluate, review and
3 comment upon issues related to education in Nevada; (2) conduct investigations
4 and hold hearings; (3) conduct studies as directed by the Legislature or the
5 Legislative Commission; and (4) make certain recommendations to the Legislature.
6 (NRS 218E.330, 218E.615) This bill directs the Committee to conduct six separate
7 studies during the 2023-2024 interim and report its findings for each study to the
8 Legislature. Specifically, this bill directs the Committee to study: (1) the mental
9 health and wellness of pupils; (2) the workload of teachers, including any relevant
10 statutory and regulatory requirements; (3) requirements governing the licensing and
11 authorization to work of teachers and administrators and the effect of such
12 requirements on the diversity and effectiveness of teachers and administrators and
13 the recruitment of local teachers and administrators; (4) trends in graduation and
14 achievement of pupils enrolled in high school and any divergence between those
15 trends; (5) groups of pupils that may require additional resources, and policies and
16 strategies that may address the needs of such groups; and (6) waivers of registration
17 fees, laboratory fees and other fees at institutions within the Nevada System of
18 Higher Education.



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

1 **Section 1.** 1. The Joint Interim Standing Committee on
2 Education shall, during the 2023-2024 interim:

3 (a) Conduct a study concerning the mental health and wellness
4 of pupils in this State and programs to improve the mental health
5 and wellness of such pupils, including, without limitation, evidence-
6 based mental health therapies and practices.

7 (b) Conduct a study concerning the workload of teachers in this
8 State, including, without limitation, provisions of law and
9 regulations that affect the workload of teachers in this State, to
10 better understand and evaluate the workload of teachers in this State.

11 (c) Conduct a study concerning requirements governing the
12 licensing and authorization to work of teachers and administrators in
13 this State, including, without limitation, requirements for the
14 authorization of a holder of a J-1 visa issued pursuant to 8 U.S.C. §
15 1101(a)(15)(J) to work as a teacher or administrator, in order to:

16 (1) Identify whether such requirements are barriers to
17 increasing the diversity of teachers or administrators, as applicable,
18 in this State and increasing the number of pupils in the public
19 schools in this State and students at institutions of higher education
20 in this State who eventually become teachers and administrators in
21 this State; and

22 (2) Ensure that requirements concerning the competency of
23 applicants for a license as a teacher or administrator, as applicable,
24 are reasonable indicators of the future effectiveness of such an
25 applicant as a teacher or administrator.

26 (d) Conduct a study concerning:

27 (1) Trends in the graduation rates of, and the types of
28 diplomas awarded to, pupils enrolled in high school in this State,
29 based on the information included in the annual report of
30 accountability pursuant to NRS 385A.260;

31 (2) Trends in achievement of pupils enrolled in high school
32 in this State, including, without limitation, information relating to
33 such trends that is included in the annual report of accountability
34 pursuant to NRS 385A.200;

35 (3) A comparison of the trends described in subparagraphs
36 (1) and (2); and

37 (4) Any factors which may be responsible for the trends
38 described in subparagraphs (1) and (2) and any divergence between
39 the trends described in subparagraph (1) and the trends described in
40 subparagraph (2).

41 (e) Conduct a study concerning:



1 (1) Groups of pupils who may require additional resources to
2 receive a reasonably equal educational opportunity;

3 (2) The specific educational needs of such groups of pupils;

4 (3) Policies and strategies that target such groups of pupils,
5 address specific needs and provide specific interventions, including,
6 without limitation, policies and strategies to increase enrollment in
7 postsecondary education or vocational training; and

8 (4) Long-term strategies to fund and implement such policies
9 and programs.

10 (f) Conduct a study concerning waivers of registration fees,
11 laboratory fees and other fees at institutions within the Nevada
12 System of Higher Education, including, without limitation, any such
13 waivers granted by the Board of Regents of the University of
14 Nevada pursuant to NRS 396.544 to 396.54495, inclusive.

15 2. On or before February 1, 2025, for each study listed in
16 subsection 1, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education
17 shall submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for
18 legislation to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
19 transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Legislature.

20 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

