

SENATE BILL NO. 91—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION)

PREFILED JANUARY 24, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Establishes the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education to develop a statewide vision and implementation plan to improve the public education system in this State. (BDR 34-386)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
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 relating to education; creating the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education; providing for the membership and duties of the Commission; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 This bill creates the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education
2 for the purposes of developing a statewide vision and implementation plan to
3 improve the education system in this State. **Section 3** of this bill creates the
4 Commission and prescribes the membership of the Commission, consisting of 25
5 persons representing a variety of stakeholders. **Section 4** of this bill requires the
6 Commission to: (1) conduct a study comparing the education policies of this State
7 to those of high performing international and domestic education systems; (2) make
8 recommendations on how to adapt the appropriate education policies of those high
9 performing education systems into the public education system in this State; (3)
10 make recommendations on how to put the performance of pupils in this State in
11 parity with the performance of those pupils in high performing education systems;
12 (4) incorporate any relevant findings of any previous or ongoing studies related to
13 funding for education; and (5) develop an implementation plan for the
14 recommendations made which includes an analysis of the costs involved. **Section**
15 **4.3** of this bill makes an appropriation to the Commission for per diem allowances
16 and travel expenses of the Commission. **Section 4.6** of this bill makes an



17 appropriation to the Commission for the Commission to enter into a contract with
18 an organization to assist in the work of the Commission.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 385 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act, unless the*
4 *context otherwise requires, "Commission" means the Commission*
5 *on Innovation and Excellence in Education created by section 3 of*
6 *this act.*

7 **Sec. 3. 1.** *The Commission on Innovation and Excellence*
8 *in Education is hereby created. The Commission consists of:*

9 *(a) Four members who are Senators, appointed by the*
10 *Majority Leader of the Senate;*

11 *(b) Four members who are members of the Assembly,*
12 *appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;*

13 *(c) The Superintendent of Public Instruction;*

14 *(d) The Director of the Office of Finance;*

15 *(e) The Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher*
16 *Education;*

17 *(f) One member who is a representative of the State Board of*
18 *Education, appointed by the President of the State Board;*

19 *(g) One member who is a representative of the Nevada State*
20 *Education Association, appointed by the President of that*
21 *Association;*

22 *(h) One member appointed by the Nevada Association of*
23 *School Administrators;*

24 *(i) One member who is a member of the board of trustees of a*
25 *school district, appointed by the Nevada Association of School*
26 *Boards;*

27 *(j) One member who is a superintendent of schools of a school*
28 *district, appointed by the Nevada Association of School*
29 *Superintendents;*

30 *(k) One member who is chief financial officer of a school*
31 *district, appointed by the Association of School Business Officials;*

32 *(l) Two members appointed by the Nevada Association of*
33 *Counties;*

34 *(m) One member who is the representative of an organization*
35 *that advocates for public education, appointed by the*
36 *Superintendent of Public Instruction;*

37 *(n) One member who is the parent or guardian of a pupil who*
38 *is enrolled in a public school in this State, appointed by the*
39 *Nevada Parent Teacher Association;*



1 (o) One member who is a representative of the public at large,
2 appointed by the Governor;

3 (p) One member who is a representative of the public at large,
4 appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

5 (q) One member who is a representative of the public at large,
6 appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly; and

7 (r) One member who owns or manages a business located in
8 this State, appointed by the Governor.

9 2. If any organization listed in subsection 1 ceases to exist,
10 the appointment required pursuant to that subsection must be
11 made by the association's successor in interest or, if there is no
12 successor in interest, by the Governor.

13 3. In appointing the members of the Commission described in
14 subsection 1, the appointing authorities shall coordinate the
15 appointments when practicable so that the members of the
16 Commission represent the diversity of this State, including,
17 without limitation, regional, ethnic, economic and gender
18 diversity.

19 4. Each member of the Commission:

20 (a) Serves without compensation; and

21 (b) While engaged in the business of the Commission, is
22 entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses
23 provided for state officers and employees generally.

24 5. Each appointed member of the Commission serves a term
25 of 2 years and may be reappointed.

26 6. The Governor shall call the first meeting of the
27 Commission. At its first meeting and annually thereafter, the
28 members of the Commission shall elect a Chair and a Vice Chair
29 from among the members of the Commission.

30 7. The Commission shall meet at least once each calendar
31 quarter and as needed at the call of the Chair.

32 8. The Commission may appoint subcommittees to address
33 designated projects or consider specific problems or other matters
34 that are related to and within the scope of the functions of the
35 Commission as the Commission determines necessary to carry out
36 the duties of the Commission.

37 9. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall
38 provide any administrative support necessary for the Commission
39 to carry out its duties.

40 **Sec. 4. 1.** The Commission shall develop a statewide vision
41 and implementation plan to improve the public education system
42 in this State. The Commission shall:

43 (a) Conduct a benchmarking or gap analysis study comparing
44 the education policies of this State to the education policies of
45 high performing international and domestic education systems.



1 (b) *Make recommendations on how to adapt the appropriate*
2 *education policies of high performing international and domestic*
3 *education systems into the public education system in this State.*

4 (c) *Identify objectives to put the educational performance of*
5 *pupils in this State in parity with that of pupils in high performing*
6 *international and domestic education systems and make*
7 *recommendations on how to meet the identified objectives.*

8 (d) *Review the findings of any previous or ongoing studies*
9 *related to the funding of education and incorporate any relevant*
10 *findings.*

11 (e) *Develop an implementation plan for the recommendations*
12 *made pursuant to this section which includes an analysis of the*
13 *costs of the plan.*

14 2. *The Commission may employ and contract with the*
15 *National Center on Education and the Economy or an*
16 *organization with similar expertise and qualifications to carry out*
17 *any of its functions pursuant to this section.*

18 3. *The Commission may coordinate with educational entities*
19 *and business entities for information and expertise as necessary to*
20 *carry out any of its functions pursuant to this section.*

21 4. *On or before June 30 of each year, the Commission shall*
22 *submit a written report of its findings to the Governor, the*
23 *Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Legislative Commission*
24 *and the Legislative Committee on Education.*

25 **Sec. 4.3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
26 General Fund to the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in
27 Education created by section 3 of this act, for per diem allowances
28 and travel costs of the Commission the following sums:

29	For the Fiscal Year 2019-2020	\$25,000
30	For the Fiscal Year 2020-2021	\$25,000

31 2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1
32 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be
33 committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal
34 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
35 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
36 transferred in any manner, and any portion of appropriated money
37 remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 18,
38 2020, and September 17, 2021, respectively, by either the entity to
39 which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money
40 was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the
41 State General Fund on or before September 18, 2020, and
42 September 17, 2021, respectively.

43 **Sec. 4.6.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
44 General Fund to the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in
45 Education created by section 3 of this act the sum of \$250,000 for



1 the Commission to enter into a contract with an organization to
2 assist in the work of the Commission pursuant to subsection 2 of
3 section 4 of this act.

4 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by
5 subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30,
6 2021, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
7 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
8 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
9 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
10 September 17, 2021, by either the entity to which the money was
11 appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently
12 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General
13 Fund on or before September 17, 2021.

14 **Sec. 4.8.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
15 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
16 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

17 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval
18 for the purposes of appointing members to the Commission on
19 Innovation and Excellence in Education created by section 3 of this
20 act and performing any other administrative tasks that are necessary
21 to carry out the provisions of this act, and on July 1, 2019, for all
22 other purposes.



