

Assembly Bill No. 19—Committee on Education

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; revising the academic subjects that constitute social studies; exempting standards of content and performance for courses of study in public schools from certain requirements governing the adoption of regulations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law: (1) designates certain academic subjects, including social studies, as core academic subjects that must be taught in all public schools; and (2) requires the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to adopt standards of content and performance for certain courses of study, including courses in the core academic subjects. Additionally, existing law provides that social studies includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics and government. (NRS 389.018, 389.520) **Sections 2 and 3** of this bill remove government from the list of subjects included within social studies and add civics, financial literacy and multicultural education to that list.

Existing law requires rules of general applicability to be adopted as regulations and prescribes a process for the adoption of regulations. (NRS 233B.038, 233B.040-233B.115) **Section 4** of this bill exempts standards of content and performance for courses of study in public schools from the process otherwise required for the adoption of regulations, and **section 5** of this bill provides for the removal of existing standards from the Nevada Administrative Code.

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. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 2. NRS 389.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.018 1. The following subjects are designated as the core academic subjects that must be taught, as applicable for grade levels, in all public schools, the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS:

- (a) English language arts;
- (b) Mathematics;
- (c) Science; and
- (d) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics , *civics, financial literacy* and ~~government.~~ *multicultural education.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a pupil enrolled in a public high school must enroll in a minimum of:

- (a) Four units of credit in English language arts;



(b) Four units of credit in mathematics, including, without limitation, Algebra I and geometry, or an equivalent course of study that integrates Algebra I and geometry;

(c) Three units of credit in science, including two laboratory courses; and

(d) Three units of credit in social studies, including, without limitation:

- (1) American government;
- (2) American history; and
- (3) World history or geography.

↪ A pupil is not required to enroll in the courses of study and credits required by this subsection if the pupil, the parent or legal guardian of the pupil and an administrator or a counselor at the school in which the pupil is enrolled mutually agree to a modified course of study for the pupil and that modified course of study satisfies at least the requirements for a standard high school diploma, an adjusted diploma or an alternative diploma, as applicable.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in addition to the core academic subjects, the following subjects must be taught as applicable for grade levels and to the extent practicable in all public schools, the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS:

- (a) The arts;
- (b) Computer education and technology;
- (c) Health; and
- (d) Physical education.

↪ If the State Board requires the completion of course work in a subject area set forth in this subsection for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a public school shall offer the required course work. Except as otherwise provided for a course of study in health prescribed by subsection 1 of NRS 389.021 and the instruction prescribed by subsection 1 of NRS 389.064, unless a subject is required for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a charter school is not required to comply with this subsection.

4. Instruction in health and physical education provided pursuant to subsection 3 must include, without limitation, instruction concerning the importance of annual physical examinations by a provider of health care and the appropriate response to unusual aches and pains.



Sec. 3. NRS 389.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:
389.520 1. The Council shall:

(a) Establish standards of content and performance, including, without limitation, a prescription of the resulting level of achievement, for the grade levels set forth in subsection 5, based upon the content of each course, that is expected of pupils for the following courses of study:

- (1) English language arts;
- (2) Mathematics;
- (3) Science;
- (4) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics, *civics*, *financial literacy* and ~~government;~~ *multicultural education*;
- (5) The arts;
- (6) Computer education and technology, which includes computer science and computational thinking;
- (7) Health;
- (8) Physical education; and
- (9) A foreign or world language.

(b) Establish a schedule for the periodic review and, if necessary, revision of the standards of content and performance. The review must include, without limitation, the review required pursuant to NRS 390.115 of the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 390.105.

(c) Assign priorities to the standards of content and performance relative to importance and degree of emphasis and revise the standards, if necessary, based upon the priorities.

2. The standards for computer education and technology must include a policy for the ethical, safe and secure use of computers and other electronic devices. The policy must include, without limitation:

(a) The ethical use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation:

- (1) Rules of conduct for the acceptable use of the Internet and other electronic devices; and
- (2) Methods to ensure the prevention of:

- (I) Cyber-bullying;
- (II) Plagiarism; and
- (III) The theft of information or data in an electronic form;

(b) The safe use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation, methods to:



(1) Avoid cyber-bullying and other unwanted electronic communication, including, without limitation, communication with on-line predators;

(2) Recognize when an on-line electronic communication is dangerous or potentially dangerous; and

(3) Report a dangerous or potentially dangerous on-line electronic communication to the appropriate school personnel;

(c) The secure use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation:

(1) Methods to maintain the security of personal identifying information and financial information, including, without limitation, identifying unsolicited electronic communication which is sent for the purpose of obtaining such personal and financial information for an unlawful purpose;

(2) The necessity for secure passwords or other unique identifiers;

(3) The effects of a computer contaminant;

(4) Methods to identify unsolicited commercial material; and

(5) The dangers associated with social networking Internet sites; and

(d) A designation of the level of detail of instruction as appropriate for the grade level of pupils who receive the instruction.

3. The standards for social studies must include multicultural education, including, without limitation, information relating to contributions made by men and women from various racial and ethnic backgrounds. The Council shall consult with members of the community who represent the racial and ethnic diversity of this State in developing such standards.

4. The standards for health must include mental health and the relationship between mental health and physical health.

5. The Council shall establish standards of content and performance for each grade level in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, for English language arts and mathematics. The Council shall establish standards of content and performance for the grade levels selected by the Council for the other courses of study prescribed in subsection 1.

6. The Council shall forward to the State Board the standards of content and performance established by the Council for each course of study. The State Board shall:

(a) Adopt the standards for each course of study, as submitted by the Council; or

(b) If the State Board objects to the standards for a course of study or a particular grade level for a course of study, return those



standards to the Council with a written explanation setting forth the reason for the objection.

7. If the State Board returns to the Council the standards of content and performance for a course of study or a grade level, the Council shall:

(a) Consider the objection provided by the State Board and determine whether to revise the standards based upon the objection; and

(b) Return the standards or the revised standards, as applicable, to the State Board.

➡ The State Board shall adopt the standards of content and performance or the revised standards, as applicable.

8. The Council shall work in cooperation with the State Board to prescribe the examinations required by NRS 390.105.

9. As used in this section:

(a) “Computer contaminant” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 205.4737.

(b) “Cyber-bullying” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.123.

(c) “Electronic communication” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.124.

Sec. 4. NRS 233B.039 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233B.039 1. The following agencies are entirely exempted from the requirements of this chapter:

(a) The Governor.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 209.221, the Department of Corrections.

(c) The Nevada System of Higher Education.

(d) The Office of the Military.

(e) The Nevada Gaming Control Board.

(f) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 368A.140 and 463.765, the Nevada Gaming Commission.

(g) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 425.620, the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 422.390, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(i) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 533.365, the Office of the State Engineer.

(j) The Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry acting to enforce the provisions of NRS 618.375.



(k) The Administrator of the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry in establishing and adjusting the schedule of fees and charges for accident benefits pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 616C.260.

(l) The Board to Review Claims in adopting resolutions to carry out its duties pursuant to NRS 445C.310.

(m) The Silver State Health Insurance Exchange.

(n) The Cannabis Compliance Board.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 and NRS 391.323, the Department of Education, the Board of the Public Employees' Benefits Program and the Commission on Professional Standards in Education are subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.

3. The special provisions of:

(a) Chapter 612 of NRS for the adoption of an emergency regulation or the distribution of regulations by and the judicial review of decisions of the Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation;

(b) Chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS for the determination of contested claims;

(c) Chapter 91 of NRS for the judicial review of decisions of the Administrator of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State; and

(d) NRS 90.800 for the use of summary orders in contested cases,

↪ prevail over the general provisions of this chapter.

4. The provisions of NRS 233B.122, 233B.124, 233B.125 and 233B.126 do not apply to the Department of Health and Human Services in the adjudication of contested cases involving the issuance of letters of approval for health facilities and agencies.

5. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

(a) Any order for immediate action, including, but not limited to, quarantine and the treatment or cleansing of infected or infested animals, objects or premises, made under the authority of the State Board of Agriculture, the State Board of Health, or any other agency of this State in the discharge of a responsibility for the preservation of human or animal health or for insect or pest control;

(b) An extraordinary regulation of the State Board of Pharmacy adopted pursuant to NRS 453.2184;

(c) A regulation adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 388.255 or 394.1694;



(d) The judicial review of decisions of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada;

(e) The adoption, amendment or repeal of policies by the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation pursuant to NRS 426.561 or 615.178;

(f) The adoption or amendment of a rule or regulation to be included in the State Plan for Services for Victims of Crime by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 217.130;

(g) The adoption, amendment or repeal of rules governing the conduct of contests and exhibitions of unarmed combat by the Nevada Athletic Commission pursuant to NRS 467.075; ~~for~~

(h) The adoption, amendment or repeal of regulations by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 447.335 to 447.350, inclusive ~~for~~; *or*

(i) The adoption, amendment or repeal of standards of content and performance for courses of study in public schools by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools and the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 389.520.

6. The State Board of Parole Commissioners is subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.

Sec. 5. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this act, the Legislative Counsel shall remove from the Nevada Administrative Code all regulations establishing standards of content and performance for courses of study in public schools.

Sec. 6. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

