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## Assembly Bill 107

### School Accountability Reporting Requirements

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Good afternoon, Madam Chair and members of the Committee. For the record, I am Joyce Woodhouse, representing Senate District No. 5. I am here today to present Assembly Bill 107 for your consideration. I would like to open my testimony by providing you and the members of the Committee with background information on this measure and then I will highlight the bill's key provisions.

#### **Background Information**

During the Legislative Interim, I was honored to serve as the Chair of the Legislative Committee on Education. The Committee heard testimony that many of Nevada's African-American students experience literacy challenges similar to those of English Language Learners. After further discussion, it was suggested that not only do African-American students struggle with language proficiency, but also students of all races from lower income families.

The Committee concluded that if schools reported student achievement data, broken out by race and family income, then schools and policymakers would be better equipped to target interventions to students in need, and measure the impact of new or existing programs on student performance.

## **Key Provisions**

Assembly Bill 107 requires each school district, including each charter school authority, to include in its annual accountability report certain information, including comparative statistics, concerning pupils who are eligible for, and who receive, free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches. The bill also requires the report completed by the State Board of Education to include comparable information for the State of Nevada. The information reported by the State Board must be provided for each school district, including each charter school in the district, and for the State as a whole.

Specifically, the bill requires the report to contain:

- The number and percentage of pupils who are eligible for and receive free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches;
- A comparison of the achievement and proficiency of pupils, reported separately by race, who are eligible for these programs and for pupils who are not eligible for free or reduced-price breakfasts or lunches; and
- A comparison of pupils, reported separately by race, who are eligible for free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches, pupils who receive free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches, and pupils who receive free

- and reduced-price lunches for which data is required to be collected in the following areas:
  - Retention rates;
  - Graduation rates;
  - Dropout rates;
  - Grade point averages; and
  - Scores on certain examinations and the college and career readiness assessment.

### Closing Remarks

Madam Chair and Committee Members, by expanding accountability reporting to include achievement data for the pupils that are eligible for, and are actually receiving free and reduced-priced breakfasts and lunches, we are able to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs, and be in a position to do all we can to ensure student success.

That concludes my remarks. Thank you for taking the time to consider this bill and I am happy to answer any questions.