

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; encouraging schools to establish and participate in programs that promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

This bill strongly encourages each school to establish and participate in programs to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by children.

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

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WHEREAS, Childhood obesity has increased dramatically in recent years, and the quality of children’s diets is a subject of considerable public concern; and

WHEREAS, Poor nutrition has been linked to childhood obesity as well as behavioral problems, health issues, mental health issues, dental problems, learning deficiencies and poor educational outcomes in children; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that proper nutrition is essential to a child’s well-being and educational success, reduces rates of childhood obesity and enhances the physical, mental and emotional health of children; and

WHEREAS, The consumption of fruits and vegetables is important for children to receive proper nutrition, yet fruit and vegetable consumption among children is far below recommended levels; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program encourages the consumption of fruits and vegetables by making fresh fruit and vegetable snacks available at no cost to all children in participating schools; and

WHEREAS, Farm-to-school programs connect schools and local and regional farms with the goals of providing schools with minimally processed farm products, serving healthy meals in school cafeterias, improving student nutrition, providing educational opportunities in the areas of agriculture, health and nutrition, and supporting local and regional farmers; and

WHEREAS, Children who are directly involved in growing fresh fruits and vegetables through a school garden program are more willing to consume fresh fruits and vegetables, demonstrate increased self-esteem, and develop a sense of ownership and responsibility; and



WHEREAS, The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, farm-to-school programs and school gardens teach children more healthful eating habits and assist in efforts to provide children with opportunities for better nutrition; now, therefore

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

**Section 1.** The Legislature hereby finds and declares:

1. That the members of the 77th Session of the Nevada Legislature strongly encourage each school to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and establish a farm-to-school program and a school garden program to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by children; and

2. That the board of trustees of each school district, the superintendent of schools of each school district and the principal of each school within the school district are hereby challenged to bring about the change encouraged by subsection 1.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

