

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to establish standards of content and performance for ethnic and diversity studies in high school; authorizing school districts and governing bodies of charter schools that operate as a high school to provide instruction in ethnic and diversity studies to pupils in high school; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools to establish standards of content and performance for certain courses of study in public schools. (NRS 389.520) This bill requires the Council to establish standards of content and performance for ethnic and diversity studies for pupils enrolled in high school.

This bill also authorizes the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school that operates as a high school to provide instruction in ethnic and diversity studies to pupils in high school and requires any such instruction to comply with the standards prescribed by the Council.

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. Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Council shall establish standards of content and performance for ethnic and diversity studies for pupils enrolled in high school. The Council shall develop the standards in consultation with:

(a) Faculty of ethnic or diversity studies at colleges and universities in this State that have an ethnic or diversity studies program;

(b) Representatives of the school districts in this State, a majority of whom are teachers in kindergarten through grade 12 and who have experience or an educational background in the study and teaching of ethnic or diversity studies; and

(c) Other qualified persons who represent the diverse communities of this State and the United States.

2. The standards established pursuant to subsection 1 must:

(a) Examine the culture, history and contributions of diverse American communities, including, without limitation, African



Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, European Americans, Basque Americans and any other ethnic or diverse American communities the Council deems appropriate;

(b) Emphasize human relations, sensitivity towards all races and diverse populations and work-related cultural competency skills;

(c) Be written in a manner that allows a school district or charter school to modify the content to reflect and support the demographics of pupils in the community, as long as the prescribed standard is met; and

(d) Comply with any applicable admissions requirements for colleges and universities in this State.

3. The board of trustees of a school district and the governing body of a charter school that operates as a high school may provide instruction in ethnic and diversity studies to pupils enrolled in high school within the school district or in the charter school, as applicable. If provided, the instruction must comply with the standards of content and performance established by the Council pursuant to this section.

4. The State Board shall adopt such regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Secs. 2 and 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3.5. NRS 389.003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.003 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 389.041, boards of trustees of school districts in this State shall enforce in schools:

1. The standards of content and performance established by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools *pursuant to NRS 389.520* and the courses of study related to those standards; and

2. The courses of study prescribed and adopted by the State Board.

Sec. 4. NRS 389.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.500 As used in NRS 389.500 to 389.540, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*, "Council" means the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools.

Sec. 5. NRS 389.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.505 The Superintendent of Public Instruction is responsible for ensuring that the duties and responsibilities of the Council set forth in NRS 389.500 to 389.540, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act and NRS* 390.105 and 390.115 are carried out by the Council successfully.

Sec. 6. (Deleted by amendment.)



Sec. 7. This act becomes effective:

1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
2. On July 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

