

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; prescribing the requirements for a pupil to enroll in a dual credit course; providing that the State Board of Education must not unreasonably limit the number of dual credit courses in which a pupil may enroll; requiring the board of trustees of each school district to provide written notice identifying the dual credit courses available to pupils enrolled in the district; requiring each school district and charter school to enter into a cooperative agreement with one or more community colleges, state colleges and universities to provide dual credit courses to pupils enrolled in the school district or charter school; providing that an academic plan for a pupil who is enrolled in a dual credit course must include certain information; providing that a pupil who successfully completes a program of workforce development must be allowed to apply any credit received for the completion of the program toward the total number of credits required for a related credential, certificate or degree; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law provides that a pupil enrolled in high school may earn college credit for a dual credit course taken in high school and apply the credit received for such a course to the total number of credits required for graduation from his or her high school. (NRS 389.160) **Section 3** of this bill provides that a pupil who wishes to enroll in a dual credit course must: (1) apply to the superintendent of the school district or his or her designee or the administrator of the charter school, in which the pupil is enrolled; and (2) satisfactorily complete the prerequisites for the course before enrolling in the course. **Section 4** of this bill requires each school district and charter school to enter into cooperative agreements with one or more community colleges, state colleges and universities to offer dual credit courses to pupils enrolled in the school district or charter school. **Section 4** requires a cooperative agreement to include an explanation of the manner in which the tuition for each dual credit course will be paid. **Section 4** also requires: (1) a community college, state college or university that provides a dual credit course to provide a copy of the cooperative agreement to the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Department of Education; and (2) the System and Department to retain a copy of each such cooperative agreement. **Section 5** of this bill prohibits the State Board of Education from unreasonably limiting the number of dual credit courses in which a pupil may enroll.

Existing law requires each public high school to develop an academic plan for each pupil that sets forth the educational goals the pupil intends to achieve before graduation from high school. (NRS 388.205) **Section 1** of this bill requires the plan for a pupil who is enrolled in dual credit courses additionally to address how the dual credit course will enable the pupil to achieve his or her postgraduation goals.

Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district to provide certain notice regarding the courses, programs and services available to pupils



enrolled in the school district. (NRS 392.018) **Section 6** of this bill requires the board of trustees to prepare a written notice which identifies the dual credit courses available to pupils enrolled in the school district and, to the extent information is available, to pupils enrolled in charter schools within the school district.

Existing law requires the Office of Economic Development to develop and implement one or more programs to provide customized workforce development services to persons that create and expand certain businesses in this State and relocate businesses to this State. (NRS 231.055) **Section 7** of this bill provides that a student who successfully completes a program of workforce development that is provided by an institution within the Nevada System of Higher Education or a private postsecondary educational institution must be allowed to apply the credit received for the completion of the program toward the total number of credits required for a related credential, certificate or degree from that institution. **Section 7** also provides that such a student may be enrolled in a dual credit course at a public high school.

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

WHEREAS, The attainment of a post-secondary credential, certificate or degree is an essential component for success in the modern economy and promotes competitiveness in the job market; and

WHEREAS, The expansion of opportunities for pupils in this State to pursue and successfully attain a post-secondary credential, certificate or degree is a strategic priority for this State; and

WHEREAS, Dual enrollment programs, whereby a pupil in high school may earn college credit for courses taken while in high school, directly support increases in the number of persons who obtain a post-secondary credential, certificate or degree; and

WHEREAS, Statewide coordination of dual enrollment programs is necessary to maximize the benefits of such programs and align them with the needs and realities of today's economy; and

WHEREAS, Expanding the opportunity to participate in dual enrollment programs will allow such programs to serve a broader range of pupils in this State, particularly pupils representing underserved or at-risk communities and communities with historically low college participation rates; and

WHEREAS, Dual enrollment programs represent an essential strategy in the statewide effort to develop a skilled and competitive workforce by increasing the number of Nevadans who are ready for college or a career upon graduation from high school and who successfully attain a post-secondary credential, certificate or degree; and

WHEREAS, Dual enrollment programs support the unified state plan submitted by the Governor to the Secretary of Labor pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 3112; and



WHEREAS, Successful implementation of dual enrollment programs requires partnership and collaboration between public high schools, including charter schools, and the Nevada System of Higher Education; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. NRS 388.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.205 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy for each public school in the school district in which ninth grade pupils are enrolled to develop a 4-year academic plan for each of those pupils. The academic plan must set forth the specific educational goals that the pupil intends to achieve before graduation from high school. The plan may include, without limitation, the designation of a career pathway and enrollment in dual credit courses, career and technical education courses, advanced placement courses and honors courses.

2. The policy may ensure that each pupil enrolled in ninth grade and the pupil's parent or legal guardian are provided with, to the extent practicable, the following information:

(a) The advanced placement courses, honors courses, international baccalaureate courses, dual credit courses, career and technical education courses, including, without limitation, career and technical skills-building programs, and any other educational programs, pathways or courses available to the pupil which will assist the pupil in the advancement of his or her education;

(b) The requirements for graduation from high school with a diploma and the types of diplomas available;

(c) The requirements for admission to the Nevada System of Higher Education and the eligibility requirements for a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship; and

(d) The charter schools within the school district.

3. The policy required by subsection 1 must require each pupil enrolled in ninth grade and the pupil's parent or legal guardian to:

(a) Be notified of opportunities to work in consultation with a school counselor to develop and review an academic plan for the pupil;

(b) Sign the academic plan; and

(c) Review the academic plan at least once each school year in consultation with a school counselor and revise the plan if necessary.



4. If a pupil enrolls in a high school after ninth grade, an academic plan must be developed for that pupil with appropriate modifications for the grade level of the pupil.

5. *If an academic plan for a pupil includes enrollment in a dual credit course, the plan must address how the dual credit course will enable the pupil to achieve his or her postgraduation goals.*

6. An academic plan for a pupil must be used as a guide for the pupil and the parent or legal guardian of the pupil to plan, monitor and manage the pupil's educational and occupational development and make determinations of the appropriate courses of study for the pupil. If a pupil does not satisfy all the goals set forth in the academic plan, the pupil is eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma if the pupil otherwise satisfies the requirements for a diploma.

Sec. 2. Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 3. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a pupil enrolled in high school, including, without limitation, a pupil enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 in a charter school, who wishes to enroll in a dual credit course must, at least 60 days before the last day of the semester that immediately precedes the semester in which the pupil intends to enroll in a dual credit course, submit an application on the form prescribed pursuant to subsection 2 to the superintendent of schools of the school district or his or her designee or the administrator of the charter school, as applicable. The superintendent or his or her designee or the administrator of a charter school, as applicable, may, in his or her discretion, waive the period for submitting an application prescribed by this subsection.*

2. *The board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school shall create, publish and make publicly available an application for enrollment in a dual credit course. The application must, without limitation:*

(a) *Provide for enrollment in more than one dual credit course using a single application;*

(b) *Specify the dual credit course or courses in which the applicant seeks to concurrently enroll; and*

(c) *Be consistent with any regulations adopted by the State Board.*

3. *The superintendent of schools of a school district or his or her designee or the administrator of a charter school, as applicable, shall approve or disapprove each application submitted*



pursuant to subsection 1 and provide notice of the approval or disapproval to the applicant.

4. A pupil must satisfactorily complete the prerequisites for a dual credit course before he or she may enroll in the course. If a pupil does not satisfactorily complete the prerequisites for a dual credit course, the community college, state college or university that provides the dual credit course may allow the pupil to enroll in another course for which the pupil has satisfactorily completed the prerequisites without requiring the pupil to submit a new application.

Sec. 4. 1. Each school district and charter school shall enter into cooperative agreements with one or more community colleges, state colleges and universities to offer dual credit courses to pupils enrolled in the school district or charter school.

2. Each cooperative agreement entered into pursuant to this section must include, without limitation:

(a) Provisions specifying the amount of credit to be awarded for the successful completion of the dual credit course;

(b) A requirement that any credits earned by a pupil for the successful completion of a dual credit course must be applied toward earning a credential, certificate or degree, as applicable, at the community college, state college or university that provides the dual credit course;

(c) An explanation of the manner in which the tuition for the dual credit course will be paid, including, without limitation, whether:

(1) The school district or charter school will pay all or a portion of the tuition for the dual credit course;

(2) A pupil is responsible for paying all or a portion of the tuition for the dual credit course;

(3) Grants from the Department are available and will be applied to pay all or a portion of the tuition for the dual credit course; and

(4) Any other funding source, including federal funding sources or sources from private entities, will be applied by the school district or charter school to pay all or a portion of the tuition for the dual credit course;

(d) A requirement that the school district or charter school establish an academic program for each pupil enrolled in the dual credit course that includes, as applicable, the academic plan developed for the pupil pursuant to NRS 388.205;



(e) Assignment by the school district or charter school of a unique identification number to each pupil who is enrolled in the dual credit course;

(f) A requirement that the community college, state college or university that provides the dual credit course retain the unique identification number assigned to each pupil pursuant to paragraph (e);

(g) A written consideration and identification of the ways in which a pupil who is enrolled in a dual credit course can remain eligible for interscholastic activities; and

(h) Any other financial or other provisions that the school district or charter school and the community college, state college or university that provides the dual credit course deem appropriate.

3. A community college, state college or university that offers a dual credit course shall provide to the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Department a copy of each cooperative agreement entered into by the community college, state college or university pursuant to subsection 1.

4. The Nevada System of Higher Education and the Department shall retain a copy of each cooperative agreement entered into pursuant to this section.

Sec. 5. NRS 389.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.160 1. A pupil enrolled in high school, including, without limitation, a pupil enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 in a charter school or a pupil enrolled in a program designed to meet the requirements of an adult standard diploma, who successfully completes a course of education offered by a community college, *state college* or university in this State which has been approved pursuant to subsection 2, must be allowed to apply the credit received for the course so completed to the total number of credits required for graduation from the high school or the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled or the credits required for receipt of an adult standard diploma, as applicable.

2. With the approval of the State Board, the board of trustees of each county school district and the governing body of each charter school shall prescribe the courses for which credits may be received pursuant to subsection 1, including occupational courses for academic credit, and the amount of credit allowed for the completion of those courses.

3. The State Board must not unreasonably limit the number of dual credit courses in which a pupil may enroll or for which a pupil may receive credit.



Sec. 6. NRS 392.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

392.018 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall prepare a written notice which identifies all the advanced placement courses, honors courses, international baccalaureate courses, *dual credit courses*, special education services, gifted and talented programs and any other educational programs available to pupils enrolled in the school district, including, without limitation, to the extent information is available, programs , *including, without limitation, dual credit courses*, offered by charter schools within the school district, which will assist in the advancement of the education of those pupils. The notice must:

(a) Specify where those courses, services and programs are available within the school district;

(b) Identify the grade level of pupils for which those courses, services and programs are available; and

(c) Be posted on the Internet website maintained by the school district.

2. Each public school shall:

(a) Prepare a written notice which identifies the courses, services and programs identified pursuant to subsection 1 that are available at that public school;

(b) Post in one or more conspicuous places at the school a notice indicating the availability and location of a complete list of the courses, services and programs:

(1) Available within the school district, as identified pursuant to subsection 1; and

(2) Available at that public school, as identified pursuant to paragraph (a); and

(c) Ensure that the notices prepared pursuant to this section are made available to the parents and legal guardians of pupils enrolled in the school:

(1) At the beginning of each school year or upon a pupil's enrollment in public school, as applicable, including, without limitation, at meetings of parent organizations at the school and by distribution with other information that is sent home with pupils.

(2) At parent-teacher conferences.

3. The notices prepared pursuant to subsection 1 and paragraph (a) of subsection 2 must be made available in such languages as the board of trustees of the school district deems necessary.

Sec. 7. Chapter 231 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

An institution within the Nevada System of Higher Education or a private postsecondary educational institution in this State that



is an authorized provider shall allow a student, including, without limitation, a student who is enrolled in a dual credit course at a public high school, who successfully completes a program of workforce development that is provided by the institution to apply the credit received for the completion of the program toward the total number of credits required for a related credential, certificate or degree from that institution.

Sec. 8. NRS 231.141 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.141 As used in NRS 231.141 to 231.152, inclusive, *and section 7 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 231.1415 and 231.146 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 9. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting regulations and performing any other administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and on January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

