AN ACT relating to education; authorizing a trade or professional association or labor union to collaborate with a school district or public school to offer certain training; establishing certain qualifications for a person who wishes to receive an endorsement to teach career and technical education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties), and authorizes the board of trustees of a school district in any other county, to establish and maintain a program of career and technical education. (NRS 388.380) Section 1 of this bill authorizes a school district or a public school to collaborate with a trade or professional association or a labor union to provide certain instruction or training to pupils in a field of career or technical education. Section 3 of this bill makes a conforming change.

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Education to exercise a variety of powers to administer career and technical education in this State, including prescribing qualifications for the teachers, directors and supervisors of career and technical subjects. (NRS 388.360) Section 2 of this bill limits such qualifications to requiring not more than 5 years of work experience, including any course of instruction or training required to obtain a license required by law for employment in the subject matter, if applicable.

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations: (1) requiring teachers to obtain an endorsement before...
teaching in a field of specialization; and (2) setting forth the educational
requirements to obtain such an endorsement. (NRS 391.019) Section 4 of this bill
prohibits the Commission from requiring more than 5 years of work experience in
the appropriate subject matter for an endorsement in a field of specialization
relating to career and technical education. Section 4 also deems as work experience
any course of instruction or training required to obtain a license required by law for
employment in such an area, if any.

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

Section 1. Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. To the extent that money is available for this purpose, a
school district or a public school may collaborate with a trade or
professional association or labor union to provide instruction or
training to pupils in an area relating to career and technical
education which prepares a pupil for entry into a vocation,
including, without limitation, preparation for an apprenticeship
program or completing a recognized industry credential.

2. A school district or a public school may accept gifts, grants
or donations to carry out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 2. NRS 388.360 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.360 The State Board is hereby designated as the sole state
agency responsible for the administration of career and technical
education in the State of Nevada. The State Board may:

1. Cooperate with any federal agency, board or department
designated to administer the Acts of Congress apportioning federal
money to the State of Nevada for career and technical education.

2. Establish policies and adopt regulations for the
administration of any legislation enacted pursuant thereto by the
State of Nevada.

3. Establish policies and adopt regulations for the
administration of money provided by the Federal Government and
the State of Nevada for the promotion, extension and improvement
of career and technical education in Nevada.

4. Establish policies or regulations and formulate plans for the
promotion of career and technical education in such subjects as are
an essential and integral part of the system of public education in the
State of Nevada.

5. Establish policies to provide for the preparation of teachers
of such programs and subjects.

6. Approve positions for such persons as may be necessary to
administer the federal act and provisions of this title enacted
pursuant thereto for the State of Nevada.
7. Direct the Superintendent of Public Instruction to make studies and investigations relating to career and technical education.

8. Establish policies to promote and aid in the establishment by local communities of schools, departments or classes giving training in career and technical subjects.

9. Cooperate with local communities in the maintenance of such schools, departments or classes.

10. Prescribe qualifications for the teachers, directors and supervisors of career and technical subjects. Qualifications prescribed pursuant to this subsection:

    (a) Must not require more than 5 years of work experience in the appropriate subject matter; and

    (b) Must deem as work experience any course of instruction or training which is required to obtain the appropriate license required by law for employment in an occupation relating to the subject matter, if any.

11. Provide for the certification of such teachers, directors and supervisors.

12. Establish policies or regulations to cooperate in the maintenance of classes supported and controlled by the public for the preparation of the teachers, directors and supervisors of career and technical subjects, or maintain such classes under its own direction and control.

13. Establish by regulation the qualifications required for persons engaged in the training of teachers for career and technical education.

Sec. 3. NRS 388.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.385 1. If the board of trustees of a school district has established a program of career and technical education pursuant to NRS 388.380 and to the extent that money is available from this State or the Federal Government, the superintendent of schools of the school district shall appoint an advisory technical skills committee consisting of:

    (a) Representatives of businesses and industries in the community;

    (b) Employees of the school district who possess knowledge and experience in career and technical education;

    (c) Pupils enrolled in public schools in the school district;

    (d) Parents and legal guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools in the school district;

    (e) To the extent practicable, representatives of postsecondary educational institutions that provide career and technical education; and

    (f) Other interested persons.
2. An advisory technical skills committee established pursuant to subsection 1 shall:
   (a) Review the curriculum, design, content and operation of the program of career and technical education to determine its effectiveness in:
      (1) Preparing pupils enrolled in the program to enter the workforce and meeting the needs of supplying an appropriately trained workforce to businesses and industries in the community; and
      (2) Complying with the provisions of NRS 388.340 to 388.400, inclusive, and section 1 of this act and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
   (b) Advise the school district regarding the curriculum, design, content, operation and effectiveness of the program of career and technical education.
   (c) Provide technical assistance to the school district in designing and revising as necessary the curriculum for the program of career and technical education.
   (d) In cooperation with businesses, industries, employer associations and employee organizations in the community, develop work-based experiences for pupils enrolled in the program of career and technical education. The work-based experiences must:
      (1) Be designed:
         (I) For pupils enrolled in grades 11 and 12, but may be offered to pupils enrolled in grades 9 and 10 upon the approval of the principal of the school where the program is offered.
         (II) To prepare and train pupils to work as apprentices in business settings.
      (2) Allow a pupil to earn academic credit for the work-based experience.
   (e) Meet at least three times each calendar year.
   (f) Provide to the superintendent of schools of the school district any recommendations regarding the program of career and technical education and any actions of the committee.
   (g) Comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.

3. The members of an advisory technical skills committee serve without compensation.

Sec. 4. NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission shall adopt regulations:
   (a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, including, without limitation, the qualifications for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of those licenses. The regulations:
(1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route to licensure which provides that the required education and training may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of higher education and other providers that operate independently of an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant to this subparagraph must:

   (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified provider;

   (II) Require a qualified provider to be selective in its acceptance of students;

   (III) Require a qualified provider to provide supervised, school-based experiences and ongoing support for its students, such as mentoring and coaching;

   (IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work required or provide for the waiver of required course work for students who achieve certain scores on tests;

   (V) Allow for the completion in 2 years or less of the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure;

   (VI) Provide that a person who has completed the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph (VII) regardless of whether the person has received an offer of employment from a school district, charter school or private school; and

   (VII) Upon the completion by a person of the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure and the satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure, provide for the issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education or secondary education to demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by the Department or completing a subject matter competency examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed satisfactory.

(3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance with that section.
(b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require
the specialized training of teachers.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring
teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of
specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization,
including, without limitation, an endorsement to teach English as a
second language.

(d) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must
satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

(e) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for
obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign
Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the
Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health
and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the
practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

(f) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be
registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division pursuant
to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an
educational setting if they:
(1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and
(2) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as
defined in NRS 656A.060.

(g) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special
qualifications license to an applicant who holds a bachelor’s degree,
a master’s degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-
granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which
the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and who has:
(1) At least 2 years of experience teaching at an accredited
degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for
which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and at
least 3 years of experience working in that field; or
(2) At least 5 years of experience working in a field for
which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom.

An applicant for licensure pursuant to this paragraph who holds a
bachelor’s degree must submit proof of participation in a program of
student teaching or mentoring or agree to participate in a program of
mentoring or courses of pedagogy for the first 2 years of the
applicant’s employment as a teacher with a school district or charter
school.

(h) Requiring an applicant for a special qualifications license to:
(1) Pass each examination required by NRS 391.021 for the
specific subject or subjects in which the applicant will provide
instruction; or
(2) Hold a valid license issued by a professional licensing
board of any state that is directly related to the subject area of the
bachelor’s degree, master’s degree or doctoral degree held by the applicant.

(i) Setting forth the subject areas that may be taught by a person who holds a special qualifications license, based upon the subject area of the bachelor’s degree, master’s degree or doctoral degree held by that person.

(j) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who:

(1) Holds a bachelor’s degree or a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in the field for which the applicant will be providing instruction;

(2) Is not licensed to teach public school in another state;

(3) Has at least 5 years of experience teaching with satisfactory evaluations at a school that is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; and

(4) Submits proof of participation in a program of student teaching or mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of mentoring for the first year of the applicant’s employment as a teacher with a school district or charter school if the applicant holds a graduate degree or, if the applicant holds a bachelor’s degree, submits proof of participation in a program of student teaching or mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of mentoring or courses of pedagogy for the first 2 years of his or her employment as a teacher with a school district or charter school.

An applicant for licensure pursuant to this paragraph is exempt from each examination required by NRS 391.021 if the applicant successfully passed the examination in another state.

(k) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family engagement. The Commission shall work in cooperation with the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by NRS 385.630 in developing the regulations required by this paragraph.

(l) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational personnel in cultural competency.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission may adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

3. Any regulation which increases the amount of education, training or experience required for licensing:

(a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the change.
(b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date it is adopted by the Commission.
(c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the regulation becomes effective.

4. A person who is licensed pursuant to paragraph (g) or (j) of subsection 1:
   (a) Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.
   (b) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on licensed teachers.
   (c) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, if the person is employed as a teacher by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on the licensed employees of a school district or charter school, as applicable.

5. The Commission shall not require more than 5 years of work experience in the appropriate subject matter for an endorsement in any field of specialization relating to career and technical education. The Commission shall deem as work experience for the purpose of this subsection any course of instruction or training which is required to obtain the appropriate license required by law for employment in the occupation in which the person wishes to teach, if any.

Sec. 5. The Commission on Professional Standards in Education and the State Board of Education shall, on or before January 1, 2020, adopt any regulations which are required by or necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

Sec. 6. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any preliminary administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act and on July 1, 2019, for all other purposes.