

SENATE BILL NO. 332—SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT

MARCH 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education.
(BDR S-640)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to education; directing the Legislative Committee on Education to study the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 **Section 2** of this bill directs the Legislative Committee on Education to conduct
2 an interim study concerning the provision of a safe and respectful learning
3 environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment.
4 **Section 2** also requires the Committee to consult with and solicit input from certain
5 persons and organizations with expertise and experience in matters relevant to the
6 provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying,
7 cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment. **Section 2.5** of this bill requires the
8 Committee, in conducting the study, to: (1) review certain specific subjects relating
9 to the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment; and (2) make
10 recommendations concerning any matter relating to the study, including
11 recommendations concerning proposed legislation.

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

1 **Section 1.** As used in sections 2 and 2.5 of this act, unless the
2 context otherwise requires, “discriminatory harassment” means
3 discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion,
4 sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry or
5 gender identity or expression.



1 **Sec. 2.** 1. The Legislative Committee on Education shall
2 study the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment
3 that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory
4 harassment to ensure that each pupil enrolled in an elementary
5 school, junior high school, middle school or high school in this State
6 and each student enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of
7 Higher Education is provided with equal access to education.

8 2. The Committee shall consult with and solicit input from
9 persons and organizations with expertise or experience in matters
10 relevant to bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment,
11 including, without limitation:

12 (a) For the southern region of this State, the northern region of
13 this State and the rural region of this State, one or more
14 representatives from school districts, elementary schools, junior
15 high schools, middle schools and high schools for each region;

16 (b) For the southern region of this State and the northern region
17 of this State, one or more representatives from a community college
18 and university of the Nevada System of Higher Education located in
19 each region;

20 (c) Representatives of organizations that assist victims of sexual
21 assault, sexual harassment or similar crimes, including, without
22 limitation:

23 (1) The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual
24 Violence;

25 (2) Crisis Support Services of Nevada; and

26 (3) The Rape Crisis Center;

27 (d) Representatives with expertise in representing the rights of a
28 person who is accused of misconduct concerning bullying, cyber-
29 bullying or discriminatory harassment in violation of federal, state
30 or local law, including, without limitation, Title IX of the Education
31 Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and any
32 regulations adopted pursuant thereto; and

33 (e) Students enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of
34 Higher Education.

35 3. On or before February 1, 2021, the Legislative Committee
36 on Education shall submit the report of its findings and any
37 recommendations to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau
38 for transmission to the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature.

39 **Sec. 2.5.** In studying the provision of a safe and respectful
40 learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and
41 discriminatory harassment, the Legislative Committee on Education
42 shall:

43 1. Review Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20
44 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and any regulations proposed or adopted
45 pursuant thereto;



1 2. Consider the existing laws of this State concerning the
2 provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free
3 of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment and laws
4 of this State concerning misconduct which constitutes bullying,
5 cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment including, without
6 limitation, the definition of such conduct, the response to such
7 conduct, whether pupils enrolled in an elementary school, junior
8 high school, middle school or high school feel safe at school,
9 whether students enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of
10 Higher Education feel safe at that institution and whether the
11 concerns of such pupils and students are addressed;

12 3. Consider whether a person employed by the board of
13 trustees of a school district should be represented by a third-party if
14 such an employee is accused of bullying, cyber-bullying or
15 discriminatory harassment;

16 4. Identify methods for responding to retaliation against a
17 victim of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment;
18 and

19 5. Make recommendations concerning any matter relating to
20 the study including, without limitation, recommendations
21 concerning proposed legislation.

22 **Sec. 3.** (Deleted by amendment.)

23 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

