

SENATE BILL NO. 71—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

PREFILED JANUARY 23, 2023

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the recruitment and retention of school staff. (BDR 34-439)

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

~

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

AN ACT relating to education; renaming the Nevada State Teacher Recruitment and Retention Advisory Task Force; revising the membership of the Task Force to include education support professionals; revising the powers and duties of the Task Force; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates the Nevada State Teacher Recruitment and Retention
2 Advisory Task Force for the purpose of evaluating and addressing the challenges in
3 attracting and retaining teachers throughout this State. (NRS 391.490-391.496)
4 Under existing law, the Task Force is composed of 20 teachers from various school
5 districts in this State. (NRS 391.492) **Section 3** of this bill defines the term
6 “education support professional” for the purpose of the Task Force to include
7 paraprofessionals, security officers, school nurses, counselors, psychologists and
8 social workers, school bus drivers and clerical, food service, custodial and
9 maintenance staff. **Sections 7.2 and 7.4** of this bill revise the name of the Task
10 Force to the Nevada State Teacher and Education Support Professional Recruitment
11 and Retention Advisory Task Force. **Section 7.4** requires the Task Force be
12 composed of 20 members employed by a school district in this State. To the extent
13 practicable, **section 7.4** requires 10 of those members to be teachers and 10 to be
14 education support professionals. **Section 7.6** of this bill establishes: (1) the
15 qualifications for membership on the Task Force; and (2) the procedure for
16 appointment to the Task Force. **Section 7.8** of this bill expands the duties of the
17 Task Force to include evaluating and addressing the challenges throughout the State
18 in attracting and retaining education support professionals.



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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in NRS 391.490 to 391.496, inclusive, and*
5 *sections 2 and 3 of this act, unless the context otherwise requires,*
6 *the words and terms defined in NRS 391.490 and section 3 of this*
7 *act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

8 **Sec. 3.** *“Education support professional” means a person,*
9 *other than a teacher or administrator, who is employed to work at*
10 *a public school. The term includes, without limitation:*

11 1. *Paraprofessionals;*

12 2. *School police officers, school resource officers and other*
13 *providers of security services at a school;*

14 3. *School nurses;*

15 4. *School counselors;*

16 5. *School psychologists;*

17 6. *School social workers;*

18 7. *Drivers of school buses;*

19 8. *Secretaries;*

20 9. *Members of the custodial or maintenance staff; and*

21 10. *Workers in food services.*

22 **Sec. 4.** (Deleted by amendment.)

23 **Sec. 5.** (Deleted by amendment.)

24 **Sec. 6.** (Deleted by amendment.)

25 **Sec. 7.** (Deleted by amendment.)

26 **Sec. 7.2.** NRS 391.490 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 391.490 ~~[As used in NRS 391.490 to 391.496, inclusive,]~~

28 “Task Force” means the Nevada State Teacher *and Education*
29 *Support Professional* Recruitment and Retention Advisory Task
30 Force created by NRS 391.492.

31 **Sec. 7.4.** NRS 391.492 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 391.492 1. There is hereby created the Nevada State Teacher
33 *and Education Support Professional* Recruitment and Retention
34 Advisory Task Force consisting of the following **20** members:

35 (a) One licensed teacher *or education support professional*
36 employed by each school district located in a county whose
37 population is less than 100,000, appointed by the Joint Interim
38 Standing Committee on Education;

39 (b) Two licensed teachers *or education support professionals*
40 employed by each school district located in a county whose
41 population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000, appointed by
42 the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education; and



1 (c) Three licensed teachers *or education support professionals*
2 employed by each school district located in a county whose
3 population is 700,000 or more, appointed by the Joint Interim
4 Standing Committee on Education.

5 *↳ To the extent practicable, the Joint Interim Standing Committee*
6 *shall appoint 10 licensed teachers and 10 education support*
7 *professionals to the Task Force.*

8 2. After the initial terms, each member of the Task Force
9 serves a term of 2 years and may be reappointed to one additional 2-
10 year term following his or her initial term. If any member of the
11 Task Force ceases to be qualified for the position to which he or she
12 was appointed, the position shall be deemed vacant and the Joint
13 Interim Standing Committee on Education shall appoint a
14 replacement for the remainder of the unexpired term. A vacancy
15 must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

16 3. The Task Force shall, at its first meeting and each odd-
17 numbered year thereafter, elect a Chair from among its members.

18 4. The Task Force shall meet at least quarterly and may meet at
19 other times upon the call of the Chair or a majority of the members
20 of the Task Force. In even-numbered years, the Task Force shall
21 have three meetings before the final meeting of the Joint Interim
22 Standing Committee on Education. In even-numbered years, the
23 fourth meeting of the Task Force must be a presentation to the Joint
24 Interim Standing Committee on Education of the findings and
25 recommendations of the Task Force made pursuant to NRS 391.496.

26 5. Ten members of the Task Force constitute a quorum, and a
27 quorum may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the
28 Task Force.

29 6. Members of the Task Force serve without compensation,
30 except that for each day or portion of a day during which a member
31 of the Task Force attends a meeting of the Task Force or is
32 otherwise engaged in the business of the Task Force, the member is
33 entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses
34 provided for state officers and employees generally.

35 7. Each member of the Task Force who is an officer or
36 employee of the State or a local government must be relieved from
37 his or her duties without loss of his or her regular compensation so
38 that the member may prepare for and attend meetings of the Task
39 Force and perform any work necessary to carry out the duties of the
40 Task Force in the most timely manner practicable. A state agency or
41 local government shall not require an officer or employee who is a
42 member of the Task Force to make up the time the member is absent
43 from work to carry out his or her duties as a member, and shall not
44 require the member to take annual vacation or compensatory time
45 for the absence.



1 8. The Department shall provide administrative support to the
2 Task Force.

3 **Sec. 7.6.** NRS 391.494 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 391.494 1. Each member of the Task Force must:

5 (a) Be a licensed teacher *or an education support professional*
6 with at least 5 consecutive years of experience teaching *or serving*
7 *as an education support professional, as applicable*, in a public
8 school in this State;

9 (b) Be currently employed as a teacher *or an education support*
10 *professional* and actively teaching *or serving as an education*
11 *support professional, as applicable*, in a public school in this State,
12 and remain employed as a teacher *or an education support*
13 *professional, as applicable*, in a public school in this State for the
14 duration of the member's term; and

15 (c) Not be currently serving on any other education-related
16 board, commission, council, task force or similar governmental
17 entity.

18 2. On or before December 1, ~~2019,~~ 2023, the Department
19 shall prescribe a uniform application for a teacher *or an education*
20 *support professional* to use to apply to serve on the Task Force.

21 3. A teacher *or an education support professional* who wishes
22 to serve on the Task Force must submit an application prescribed
23 pursuant to subsection 2 to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on
24 Education on or before January 15 of an even-numbered year. On or
25 before February ~~15~~ 15 of each even-numbered year, the Joint
26 Interim Standing Committee on Education shall select one or more
27 teachers ~~15~~ *or education support professionals*, as applicable, to
28 serve as a member of the Task Force.

29 **Sec. 7.8.** NRS 391.496 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 391.496 The Task Force shall:

31 1. Evaluate the challenges in attracting and retaining teachers
32 *and education support professionals* throughout this State;

33 2. Make recommendations to the Joint Interim Standing
34 Committee on Education to address the challenges in attracting and
35 retaining teachers *and education support professionals* throughout
36 this State, including, without limitation, providing incentives to
37 attract and retain teachers ~~15~~ *and education support professionals*;
38 and

39 3. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year, submit
40 a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
41 transmission to the Legislature describing the findings and
42 recommendations of the Task Force.

43 **Sec. 7.9.** The amendatory provisions of this act do not affect
44 the current term of appointment of any person who, on June 30,
45 2023, is a member of the Nevada State Teacher Recruitment and



1 Retention Advisory Task Force created by NRS 391.492, as that
2 section existed on June 30, 2023, and each such member continues
3 to serve until the expiration of his or her term or until the member
4 vacates his or her office, whichever occurs first. On and after
5 February 15, 2024, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on
6 Education shall make appointments to the Nevada State Teacher and
7 Education Support Professional Recruitment and Retention
8 Advisory Task Force in accordance with NRS 391.492, as amended
9 by section 7.4 of this act.

10 **Sec. 8.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
11 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
12 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

13 **Sec. 9.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

⑩

