

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.

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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; 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; making an appropriation; 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. **Section 7.85** of this bill



19 makes an appropriation to the Department of Education for travel costs for the  
20 members of and staff costs for the Task Force.

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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;



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

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

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

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

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

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

30 5. Ten members of the Task Force constitute a quorum, and a  
31 quorum may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the  
32 Task Force.

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

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



1 member of the Task Force to make up the time the member is absent  
2 from work to carry out his or her duties as a member, and shall not  
3 require the member to take annual vacation or compensatory time  
4 for the absence.

5 8. The Department shall provide administrative support to the  
6 Task Force.

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

8 391.494 1. Each member of the Task Force must:

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

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

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

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

25 3. A teacher *or an education support professional* who wishes  
26 to serve on the Task Force must submit an application prescribed  
27 pursuant to subsection 2 to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on  
28 Education on or before January 15 of an even-numbered year. On or  
29 before February ~~[15]~~ 15 of each even-numbered year, the Joint  
30 Interim Standing Committee on Education shall select one or more  
31 teachers ~~[1]~~ *or education support professionals*, as applicable, to  
32 serve as a member of the Task Force.

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

34 391.496 The Task Force shall:

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

37 2. Make recommendations to the Joint Interim Standing  
38 Committee on Education to address the challenges in attracting and  
39 retaining teachers *and education support professionals* throughout  
40 this State, including, without limitation, providing incentives to  
41 attract and retain teachers ~~[1]~~ *and education support professionals*;  
42 and

43 3. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year, submit  
44 a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for



1 transmission to the Legislature describing the findings and  
2 recommendations of the Task Force.

3 **Sec. 7.85.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State  
4 General Fund to the Department of Education for travel costs for  
5 members of and staff costs for the Nevada State Teacher and  
6 Education Support Professional Recruitment and Retention  
7 Advisory Task Force created by NRS 391.492 as amended by  
8 section 7.4 of this act the following sums:

9	For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 .....	\$5,998
10	For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 .....	\$5,998

11 2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1  
12 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be  
13 committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal  
14 years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity  
15 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise  
16 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated  
17 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after  
18 September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively, by  
19 either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity  
20 to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and  
21 must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before  
22 September 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively.

23 **Sec. 7.9.** The amendatory provisions of this act do not affect  
24 the current term of appointment of any person who, on June 30,  
25 2023, is a member of the Nevada State Teacher Recruitment and  
26 Retention Advisory Task Force created by NRS 391.492, as that  
27 section existed on June 30, 2023, and each such member continues  
28 to serve until the expiration of his or her term or until the member  
29 vacates his or her office, whichever occurs first. On and after  
30 February 15, 2024, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on  
31 Education shall make appointments to the Nevada State Teacher and  
32 Education Support Professional Recruitment and Retention  
33 Advisory Task Force in accordance with NRS 391.492, as amended  
34 by section 7.4 of this act.

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

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

