



www.nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com

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Dear Nevada Homeschoolers, 7/3/2015

NHN, once again, was very involved in this last legislature. Especially Barbara Dragon, who throughout the session almost single-handedly carried the weight of responsibility and action! Similar to a sports team there are times when the team is almost overwhelmed with injuries and rookies, and it's the veteran who steps up to the plate at the most critical moments. Barb is our hero!

One issue that NHN worked on, that didn't make it, is a privacy protection bill (SB 228) that declares that data belonging to and generated by a public, private or homeschool student belongs to that student, not to the government. NHN feels very strongly that this is critically important, and will continue to advance any efforts to get such a law passed. It is baffling sometimes to know how any legislator or anybody of any political persuasion (except those who advocate a totalitarian government) could oppose personal privacy. Clearly there are politicians who tell their constituents one thing, then vote the other way.

No doubt you've heard that Nevada has passed the most impressive, most amazing, law that allows parents to start an Educational Savings Account (ESA) for their child(ren). SB302 was a real challenge for NHN. Initially we opposed it because its initial wording blurred the lines between "true" homeschool parents who don't want government money and the laws and regulations that accompany it, and those who are comfortable with accepting the money, laws and regulations. *While we absolutely believe in parental choice in education, we also don't want a law that forces regulations on freedom-loving individualistic homeschool families who are legally and effectively homeschooling their children.* NHN worked with Senator Hammond, sponsor of SB302, who has been very supportive of homeschoolers. Our gratitude and thanks to Senator Hammond!

Our NHN website has been giving us fits lately, so right now I can't give you a link to get more information. I'll attach a document that NHN composed a couple of weeks ago that gives a thumb-nail sketch of what SB302 is (*copied below*). Essentially it is a new 4th type of legal schooling in Nevada: public, private, homeschooling, and an ESA opt-in child.

Also, below, I'd like to invite to read an article written January 6, 2011 by Dr. Brian Ray of NHERI (National Home Education Research Institute) entitled, [*What If? A Thought Experiment*](#). NHN depends heavily on his research (as do most other homeschool advocacy groups and academics). I encourage you, if at all possible, to consider a donation to NHERI using the information below.

-Frank Schnorbus
Nevada Homeschool Network, Chairman

Statement of Explanation on SB 302 – Education Saving Account

An ESA Grant shall^[1] be awarded to a qualified public school student whose parent enters into a written agreement with the State Treasurer^[2]. This will be an **ESA Grant “Opt-in Child”**^[3] and is not a homeschooled child^[4]. The approved “participating entity”^[5] from which the Opt-in Child will receive instruction^[6] may be one or a combination^[7] of the following:

1. A **“Grant School”**, including;
 1. A licensed or exempt private school in this state^[8];
 2. A private college or university, a state college or university, or a community college in this state^[9];
 3. On-line schools that are not operated by the public school or the DOE^[10];
2. A **“Grant Tutor”**, which can be either a tutor or tutoring facility that is accredited^[11]; or
3. A **“Grant Parent”**
 1. Who has submitted to the school district or charter school in which the child was enrolled a Notice that the child is an approved ESA Grant Opt-in Child^[12], and
 2. Complies with the requirements in SB 302 Section 12, Subsection 1, including ensuring that the child takes either a norm-referenced exam or an exam pursuant to NRS 389 in math and English language arts.

[1] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 2

[2] SB 302 Sec. 7, Subsection 1

[3] SB 302 Sec. 15.1, Subsection 5 and Sec. 16.7, Subsection 1(c)

[4] SB 302 Sec. 7, Subsection 10 and Sec. 15.1, Subsection 3

[5] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1

[6] SB 302 Sec. 7, Subsection 1(a)

[7] SB 302 Sec. 7, Subsection 10; Sec. 8, Subsection 3; Sec. 9, Subsection 1(j); Sec. 11, Subsection 4; Sec. 15.1, Subsection 5

[8] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1(a)

[9] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1(b) and Sec. 3.5, Subsections 1 and 2

[10] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1(c)

[11] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1(d)

[12] SB 302 Sec. 11, Subsection 1(e) and Sec. 16.4, Subsection 1