

NEVADA GIRLS STATE
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 23

AN ACT that will create a one-dollar (\$1.00) extra fee for every registered vehicle in the State of Nevada in order to fund semester-long student passes for public transportation to low-income students below the age of 18 for free.

SECTION 1: Students are struggling to find a ride to school, preventing them from attending and creating more absences for them.

SECTION 2: Students from low-income areas who do not live in a bus zone do not have the money to afford the public bus, especially after having to use it for a long time.

SECTION 3: Chronic absenteeism rates in the State of Nevada are increasing every year with the increase of understaffing of school bus drivers.

SECTION 4: Absences affect grades and change of graduating or dropping out, according to the National Center on Educational Statistics.

SECTION 5: If we want to lower absences we have to solve the root of the problem, which is transportation.

SECTION 6: Many students are dropped off late because they are dropped off after their siblings to school, but they have no choice because that's their only ride.

SECTION 7: Free semester passes for public transportation would make school more accessible regardless of income status or zone.

SECTION 8: Students have an opportunity to stay for sports and/or extracurricular when they have a stable ride home.

SECTION 9: Sports and extracurriculars are correlated with increased academic performance, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

SECTION 10: With school bus driver shortages, this issue is bigger than ever with students who have depended on the school bus for years now not having access to it anymore.

SECTION 11: Parents who do not have a car can take younger children to school quicker with the cost being lowered because their child would be covered with the pass.

SECTION 12: 11.88% of Nevadans are in poverty, something we need to help lower and 83.2% of high schoolers graduate in Nevada, something we need to raise.

SECTION 13: With the money from registered vehicles, we can raise approximately \$680,000, enough funding for approximately 6,520 passes.

SECTION 14: This ACT will be effective upon final passage.