

Senate Bill 185 Overview

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Brief Context

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 287](#) of the 2017 Legislative Session added background checks and fingerprinting requirements for most public, charter, and private school volunteers (regular or unsupervised contact).

This resulted in some unintended consequences:

- Financial burden placed on volunteers, which included parent and family members, to cover the cost of the requirements.
- Confusion about who is considered a volunteer and what unsupervised contact meant.
- Some parent and family members did not feel comfortable submitting a background check or fingerprints.

[SB 185](#) revised these requirements due to unintended consequences and stakeholder feedback.

Notable Revisions in SB 185

Revision	Description
Defined “unsupervised contact”	Direct contact or interaction with one or more pupils who are not under the direct supervision of an employee
Described what direct supervision means under this bill	<p>If indoors, the employee/designated person is in the same room with the pupil or has visual contact with the pupil.</p> <p>If outdoors, the employee/designated person is within 30 yards of the pupil or has visual contact with the pupil.</p> <p>A person shall not be deemed to have unsupervised contact with pupils if they have the potential for only incidental unsupervised contact with pupils in commonly used areas of the school.</p>

Notable Revisions in SB 185

Revision	Description
Defined “volunteer”	<p>Any person who, without compensation, works at, assists with or oversees any activity or event conducted or sponsored by the school during or outside school hours.</p> <p>Includes coaches, assistant coaches, chaperones of any overnight trips, directors of in-school or extracurricular activities.</p>
Removed the background check requirement from volunteers who have regular, supervised contact with students	Volunteers who have unsupervised contact with pupils still must submit fingerprints and authorize a background check at least once every 5 years.

Other Revisions in SB 185

Revision	Description
<p>Volunteer can submit fingerprints to another entity who is authorized</p>	<p>Authorizes a volunteer to submit their fingerprints to another entity authorized to forward fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History as an alternative to submitting their fingerprints to the governing body, administrator or board of trustees. *Any findings still require notification*</p>
<p>Exempts a volunteer from a background check in certain scenarios</p>	<p>Does not mean the volunteer has not gone through a background check. They have gone through a background check, either through their employer or organization, that meets the same standards in the bill. *Any findings still require notification*</p>

Questions + Comments

