Every student in Nevada deserves access to an education that not only meets their immediate learning needs but also prepares them for lifelong success. Despite significant investments, including an additional $2 billion in the 2023 biennium to enhance K-12 education, including expanding early childhood literacy and establishing clear pathways to career and college readiness, student outcomes have remained underwhelming. Nevada continues to grapple with low proficiency rates in reading and math and faces challenges ensuring that graduates are adequately prepared for the workforce or higher education. The Nevada Accountability in Education Act represents a comprehensive effort to confront these challenges head-on. This legislation aims to instill accountability at every level of the education system, empower educators, expand opportunities for students, and ensure that families have access to world-class education options.

**Key Elements of the Act:**

* **Excellence in Education Account:** Establishes a dedicated account within the State Education Fund to reward continuously high-performing teachers and administrators with financial bonuses. Funded by surplus dollars from the Education Stabilization Account, this program incentivizes excellence and drives improved outcomes by recognizing educators who deliver measurable results.
* **Robust Accountability Measures:** Implements a tiered intervention system across school boards, districts, schools, administrators, and teachers. This framework ensures that underperformance triggers immediate and progressive actions, ranging from performance improvement plans to state-led oversight and restructuring for chronic underperformance. All stakeholders are held accountable for student success.
* **Student-Centered Reforms:** Empowers families by expanding open enrollment policies and providing transportation support for students attending low-performing schools. The Act also introduces expanded achievement options, including transfers to charter schools or state-approved private schools, ensuring every child has access to the education setting that works best for them.
* **Foundational Literacy Enhancements**: Mandates the integration of the Science of Reading in teacher preparation programs at state-funded colleges and universities and requires ongoing professional development for elementary school teachers. These evidence-based strategies aim to significantly improve literacy rates statewide.
* **Equitable Funding and Support for Charter Schools:** Ensures funding parity under the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan, so public charter schools receive equitable resources to serve students.
* **Innovation Schools and Networks**: Encourages the establishment of Innovation Schools and Networks to foster localized, flexible education reform models aimed at improving student outcomes through strategies tailored to meet the needs of specific students in specific schools.
* **Parent-Selected Literacy Interventions**: Creates a parent-selected intervention program offering families access to state-approved literacy tutoring and support services funded through a dedicated Empowering Parents Account.
* **Legal Protections for Teachers**: Provides immunity to teachers intervening in student altercations to maintain safety, ensuring they can act without fear of liability while following established protocols.
* **Creation of the Nevada Integrity in Academic Funding Program**: Establishes a program to ensure that education funds slated for qualified expanded achievement options are used only for their intended purpose and distributed responsibly.
* **Efficiency in Education Reporting**: Establishes a process whereby teachers, administrators, schools, and school districts can identify education-related reports that are duplicative or do not have a known use and can be consolidated or eliminated.