



Clark County Education Association



February 2, 2021

Nevada Senate Committee on Education  
C/O Chair Senator Moises Denis  
401 S Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

**Re: Public Comment for February 3, 2021 Senate Education Hearing on SB36: Revises provisions relating to plans for responses to crises, emergencies and suicides by schools. (BDR 34-296).**

The Clark County Education Association (CCEA) represents more than 18,000 licensed professionals in Clark County School District. We are the largest independent teacher's union in the country and in the State of Nevada. We engage in bipartisan advocacy for advancing public education in Nevada.

In Clark County School District, there are currently 1840 mental health professionals on the front lines supporting our 350,000 students. These professionals must be prepared to handle difficult situations that arise, but the pandemic has underscored our public-school delivery system's lack of responsiveness. That is why district leaders, representatives from the health department, educators and parents must work together to be able to respond to emergencies, crises, suicides, and epidemics.

The Clark County School District has experienced a mental health crisis since the beginning of school closures that have resulted in a high number of student suicides. Educators, administrators, and students need a plan to help prepare and risk manage all future crises, emergencies, and epidemics as we return to in person and hybridized learning to support the mental and behavioral health of all individuals in the education realm.

CCEA supports the creation of risk management mechanisms to support our educators and students through these difficult times, SB36 is a crucial step.

Respectfully,

Hawah S. Ahmad, Lobbyist  
Clark County Education Association