

Clark County Education Association

the UNION of teaching professionals

February 10, 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 10, 2021 Senate Education Hearing SB76: Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-429).

Hello and thank you Committee Chair Denis, and committee members. My name is Marie Neisess, President of the Clark County Education Association.

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

CCEA would like to voice our support for Senate Bill 76 and would like to thank the Department of Education for bringing forth this bill.

As citizens of Nevada have witnessed over the last year, it is important for our educational system to be both responsive to emerging needs and efficient in carrying forth needed adjustments to our K-12 public education system. CCEA believes that the removal of committees that are duplicative will increase the Department's responsiveness to address the needs of our students and our teachers. Though we support this bill, CCEA cautions the Department that the removal of committees may also lead to an absence of educator voice in the decision-making process, leading to misinformed decisions being made that will impact educators and students across the State. For that reason, CCEA has worked alongside the Department to propose a friendly amendment that acknowledges the importance of educator representation of the largest employee organization in the State on the Teachers and Leaders Council. This inclusion of CCEA in SB76 further aligns the equity interests of Clark County Educators to promote fair representation at the state level. We thank Deputy Superintendent Gonzales and Superintendent Ebert for their collaboration.

CCEA looks forward to developing our relationship with the Department, this committee, and with every stakeholder in the State of Nevada as we return to in-person learning and work towards our goals of workforce development, economic diversification, strengthening the K-20





education delivery system, and most importantly supporting the needs of our educators to enhance the opportunities available to our students.

Respectfully,

Marie Neisess, President

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