



Clark County Education Association



February 24, 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 24, 2021 Senate Education Hearing SB66: Revises provisions related to education. (BDR 34-430)**

Hello and thank you Committee Chair Denis, and committee members. My name is Hawah Ahmad, and I am here representing 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 teacher's union in the country and in the State of Nevada. We engage in bipartisan advocacy for advancing public education in Nevada.

CCEA supports the Amended Senate Bill 66 and thanks the Clark County School District for bringing this important bill forth. Nevada made tremendous progress during remote learning when a device was placed in every students' hands, but that should be just the beginning. Closure of the digital divide includes two components: (1) access to devices, and (2) reliable internet access. The image of economically disadvantaged students sitting in front of a "wireless" school bus is an image that we will always remember. It was a band aid fix to a deep-seeded problem. The pandemic highlighted the terrible inequity in access across our state, and CCEA believes that Nevada will take a huge step toward access and equity in remote learning with the implementation of this bill.

CCEA supports the steps that the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology are taking, but as a certified information privacy professional, I would like to caution this committee to consult all applicable state and federal data privacy laws and regulations, fair information practices, and corporate best practices to ensure that student privacy is not breached as we work towards the goal of closing the digital divide.

CCEA believes the digital divide can be closed, and once closed it will help ensure equitable access to education for **all** Nevada students. Thank you for your efforts, we look forward to doing all that we can to support *connecting Nevada*.

Respectfully,

Hawah Ahmad,  
Clark County Education Association