

March 25, 2021

Nevada Assembly Committee on Education
C/O Chair Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod
401 S Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Public Comment for March 23, 2021: AB265: Revises provisions governing alternative routes to licensure for school administrators. (BDR 34-671)

Good afternoon, Committee Chair Bilbray-Axelrod, and committee members. My name is Marie Neisess, and I am the 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 teacher's union in the country and the State of Nevada. We engage in bipartisan advocacy for advancing public education in Nevada.

CCEA is strongly in opposition to AB265. This bill produces a pipeline to move from educator to non-school based administrator that is unnecessary for CCSD. Currently, the Clark County School District has hundreds of educators in the pool awaiting an administrative placement. CCSD does not have a pipeline issue attributed to a lack of alternative licensing routes.

Administrators are the educational leaders of our buildings and of central office. They play an integral part in the success of teachers, staff, and student. Nevada should not create a quicker or easier path to administration, however it is imperative that this session focus on raising the bar on entry to administration and ensure that only highly qualified and effective administrators lead our schools and central office. Additionally, we need accountability to ensure that every dollar in education goes to where it is needed, like in class size reduction, resources, and supporting our educators so they can support our students.

CCEA appreciates Assemblywoman Anderson for bringing this bill forward, and we appreciate the intent of this bill, but are unclear as to the purpose of this bill. We also need clarification on whether these provisional licenses automatically mean an individual can apply for full licensure. Is it beneficial to have individuals get fully licensed prior to applying for the CCSD administrator pool? Most importantly, is this bill, if made into law, going to help address any of the issues we currently face in K-12 education. As such, I respectfully ask this committee to vote no on AB265 so that we can focus on more pressing issues like funding and accountability.

Respectfully,



Marie Neisess, President
Clark County Education Association

