

Clark County Education Association



March 4, 2021

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

Re: Public Comment for March 4, 2021, Assembly Education Hearing AB167: Establishes provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-749)

Hello and thank you, Committee Chairwoman Bilbray-Axelrod, 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 teachers union in the country and in the State of Nevada. We engage in bipartisan advocacy for advancing public education in Nevada.

CCEA is in support of AB167 and the conceptual amendment, and we would like to thank Assemblyman Leavitt and all stakeholders for bringing this bill forth. Though the COVID-19 Pandemic has exacerbated the mental health crisis in Nevada, the mental health crisis our students face everyday is nothing more than a normal occurrence. It is about time that we as Nevadans, stand together, and give our students the resources they need should they require crisis support or peer support. By ensuring that information to the crisis support center is readily accessible on the back of every student ID, students will be given one more resource that will help promote the destigmatization of mental illness and stimulate discussion of the subject matter. Though we would like to see outreach connected with this bill, we understand that it is on each of us to ensure that our educators and students have the resources and knowledge needed to manage mental health.

Thank you again to the committee for hearing this bill, and we look forward to continuing the mental health discussion as it pertains to education. Respectfully,

Hawah Ahmad Lobbyist Clark County Education Association