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April 22, 2021

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

**Re: Public Comment for April 22, 2021: AB450 Revises provisions relating to workforce development.  
(BDR S-1108)**

Good Afternoon Committee Chair Bilbray-Axelrod, and committee members. My name is Dr. Brenda Pearson and I am here representing the Clark County Education Association.

CCEA is testifying in neutral on Assembly Bill 450. The creation of an interim study that will explore opportunities to streamline the post-secondary education from our community colleges to workforce development programs is a key component of Nevada's economic diversification and development. CCEA is in neutral on AB450 because we know that the key for economic diversification in Nevada is in the K through 20 education delivery system.

In Nevada, it is important that we utilize our community colleges to their fullest and allow this interim study to guide how we can best work together to improve student achievement. However, CCEA would be remiss if we failed to mention that we are in neutral on this bill because we believe that our K-20 education delivery system must include looking at new revenue streams to fund our community colleges and the pupil-centered funding plan, optimally, to ensure that every workforce development program is impactful, and that our students have the skills needed to transition from K-12 to post-secondary/workforce programs.

This session legislators have the opportunity to fully fund the pupil-centered funding plan allowing students across our state to realize their future potential. Funding our education delivery system optimally means that Legislators must identify a designated revenue stream for the purpose of education. CCEA understands that in order to pass new revenue, we need a bipartisan effort, led by the Governor. However, any decision short of passing new revenue this session to fund the pupil-centered funding plan will create delays in the development of streamlined workforce programs.

Due to the learning loss attributed to distance learning over the pandemic, we must invest in our students to ensure they have the necessary skills to capitalize on the relationships this interim study aims to improve. Creating a streamlined system that connects K-20 to workforce opportunities will only be successful if our K-12 system produces college and career-ready graduates. This cannot be done without a stable and consistent designated revenue stream aimed at improving the quality of K-12 education for all students.

CCEA would like to thank this committee for hearing Assembly Bill 450, and we look forward to helping ensure the recommendations of this interim study are adopted and executed to provide Nevada's students with opportunities.

Respectfully,

Dr. Brenda Pearson  
Clark County Education Association