

April 21, 2021

Nevada Senate Committee on Education
C/O Chair Senator Mo Denis
401 S Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Public Comment for April 21, 2021, Senate Education Hearing AB57: Temporarily suspends certain requirements relating to certain teacher and administrator evaluations. (BDR 34-434)

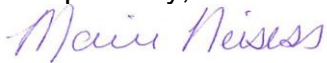
Good afternoon, Committee Chair Denis, and committee members. My name is Marie Neisess, and I am president of the Clark County Education Association (CCEA).

CCEA supports AB57 as amended and would like to thank the Washoe County School District and the Clark County School District for accepting the friendly amendment. Given the Covid-19 pandemic and the incredible amount of stress that has been placed on educators and students, CCEA feels it is in the best interest of the students to suspend the pupil growth portion of the NEPF to focus on remedial education from learning loss attributed to distance learning.

CCEA also believes AB57 will enable educators and their bargaining agents who have entered into this agreement before the effective date of this act, to continue to develop student learning goals to ensure students walk away from K-12 public education with the tools necessary to succeed. Of course, CCEA acknowledges that this pause on pupil growth in the NEPF and exception for CCEA/CCSD educators will not compensate for the historical underfunding of the K-12 education delivery system. While we acknowledge we must put our student's growth above standardized test preparedness, we must emphasize 2019's SB543. The pupil-centered funding plan must be fully supported to truly address the inadequacies of our education system that the pandemic has exacerbated.

It's time for all of us to acknowledge the strain on our education system that has exposed every issue created by the Nevada Plan's inequitable funding scheme. It is now time for Democrats and Republicans, under the leadership of the Governor, to come together to put our students first by establishing a designated revenue stream for SB543. AB57 is a significant first step to ensure that we set the noise of standardized testing aside and put student's learning first. But it is not the last step. We must now look to the new funding plan and work together to ensure that all students are given every opportunity to succeed.

Respectfully,



Marie Neisess, President
Clark County Education Association