

Clark County Education Association



February 8, 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 8, 2021 Senate Education Hearing SB27: Revises various provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-326).

Hello and thank you Committee Chair Denis, and committee members. My name is Hawah Ahmad and I am a proud graduate of Washoe County School District, here representing the Clark County Education Association.

The Clark County Education Association (CCEA) represents more than 18,000 licensed professionals in 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 would like to voice their neutral position on Senate Bill 27. CCEA appreciates the intent to streamline due process for every educator across the state in this bill; however, CCEA is concerned that the broad authority this bill gives to the Superintendent of Public Instruction or her designee will lead to investigations that may conflict with CCEA/CCSD bargaining agreements.

Further, CCEA is concerned that this bills' examination requirement on paraprofessionals to teach special education will further exacerbate Clark County School District's teacher retention issues and provide an economic and educational barrier to new paraprofessionals from entering special education. While the implementation of a special license authorizing individuals to perform duties of athletic coaching or administrative personnel will provide a central database of all licenses to ensure student safety, CCEA believes that the responsibility for such regulations and federal compliance should fall to the Commission on Professional Standards.

CCEA would like to thank all parties involved in the drafting of this legislation and appreciates Washoe County School District's amendment clarifying language for what "licensed" persons means in Section 1.2. We cannot wait to see the full amendments and would like to support the fine tuning of this bill in any way we can.

Respectfully, Hawah S. Ahmad, Lobbyist Clark County Education Association



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## professionals

## Notes from hearing on 2-8-21

- There will be three amendments on this bill, expect one from WCSD changing "persons" to "any licensed employee as prescribed by NRs 391.031."
- NASS has an amendment that does a lot, we need to keep an eye on it.
- In support
  - o Brad Keating- CCSD
  - o Lindsey Anderson- WCSD
  - o David Dazlich- Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Chair of Government Relations
  - o Kanni Esparaza- NSHE
  - o Chris Daly- NSEA
  - o Kenneth Varner + one other person- UNLV, Teach for Nevada
  - o Mary P. NASS
- Opposition
  - o None
- Neutral
  - o CCEA