

OFFICIAL BARGAINING PARTNER TO CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, REPRESENTING MORE THAN 18,000 LICENSED PROFESSIONALS.

April 29, 2021

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

**Re: Public Comment Assembly Committee on Education: SB215: Establishes provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-749)**

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 support of SB215. When that light switch moment happened on March 15, 2020 and classrooms across Nevada were closed and thrown into distance learning, gaping inequities were highlighted. Since then, Nevada has worked tirelessly to put devices in every students' hands and ensure internet access to all students, but our state has done very little to rethink educational opportunities. Senate Bill 215 rethinks distance learning by removing the arbitrary timelines in which students learn to allow students across Nevada who learn content at different rates to demonstrate proficiency and explore educational opportunities at their own pace.

CCEA believes that distance learning, as outlined in Senate Bill 215, would be accessible to *all* Nevada's students. We caution Legislators that Nevada must prioritize the *quality* of opportunities over the *quantity* of opportunities offered to students. Quality is determined by whether educators can meet students where they are and lead them forward academically. This can only be done when educators have strong content knowledge, appropriate resources, and access to flexible and engaging curriculum. Simply put, this takes new revenue designated for education.

CCEA believes that the full implementation of SB543 will ensure educators have the needed tools and students have the high-quality learning experiences needed to lead them to college and career readiness. CCEA understands that it takes both the Democrats and Republicans, under the Governor's leadership, to be able to introduce and pass new revenue needed to fund SB543, but failing to do so is tells Nevada's families and students that we are not vested in their future. We do not have time to wait for another legislative session to find and pass new revenue to put the restorative practices and futures of our students first.

CCEA supports SB215, and we look forward to working with our bargaining partner to create and implement distance learning over the long term that will provide more options to our students and opportunity for creativity to our teachers.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Brenda Pearson  
Director of Strategic Policy Initiatives, Clark County Education Association