



February 18, 2025

Testimony for AB96

Dear Chair Williamson, Commissioner Cordova and Brown,

Good morning, members of the committee.

Hello. My name is Pastor Marlon Anderson, and I am the Clean Energy Community Organizer for Faith Organizing Alliance, where our mission is to increase civic participation through faith-based and civic organizations within the Las Vegas Valley to advance a community and government that is more caring, just, and equitable.

I am here today to express strong support for Assembly Bill 96. Extreme heat is not just an environmental issue—it is a public health crisis, an economic burden, and a racial justice issue. In Clark County, where we’ve seen a 78% rise in heat-related deaths over the past two years, Black communities are disproportionately affected. Many of our neighborhoods have less tree cover, fewer cooling resources, and inadequate infrastructure to protect residents from extreme temperatures. Without proper mitigation, we see increased rates of heatstroke, dehydration, and cardiovascular stress, particularly among elders, children, and those with chronic conditions. By requiring Clark and Washoe Counties to implement heat mitigation strategies, AB 96 ensures our communities gain access to essential cooling spaces, shaded streets, and public drinking water—measures that will save lives and promote health equity.

The financial impact of extreme heat cannot be ignored. Higher temperatures drive up energy costs, forcing Black families—many already facing economic hardship—to choose between keeping their homes cool and affording basic necessities like food and

medicine. This hidden tax on our community increases financial strain and deepens existing disparities. Investing in heat mitigation will reduce utility bills, improve walkability, and encourage local economic growth by making urban areas more livable. Furthermore, shaded streets require less maintenance, saving taxpayer dollars in the long run. AB 96 is not just a policy for climate resilience—it is a crucial step toward economic and racial justice. I urge you to pass this bill and ensure that all Nevadans, regardless of zip code, have the infrastructure needed to survive and thrive in a hotter future.

Thank you
God bless.

Sincerely,
/s Pastor Marlon Anderson

Clean Energy Community Organizer

Faith Organizing Alliance
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