

April 3, 2025

Nevada Assembly Committee on Revenue
C/O Chair Assemblymember Shea Backus
401 S Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Good Afternoon, Chair Backus and Committee Members.

For the record, my name is Marie Neisess, and I serve as the president of the Clark County Education Association.

I am here today to express my strong support for AB 462. During the 2023 legislative session, the Educator Pipeline Bill was passed; however, implementation was challenging. Based on our experience, AB 462 identifies key areas that require adjustments to strengthen the effectiveness of this legislation.

As an educator, I recognize the vital importance of providing clear career pathways for our students by providing structured opportunities for all students—especially those from historically underrepresented backgrounds. Many students lack the resources, guidance, or support to pursue a career. A program that introduces students to education careers as early as middle school will give them the time and exposure needed to make informed decisions about their future. This early investment will help students feel engaged and empowered in their career journey.

AB 462 will help break the cycle of poverty by empowering students to achieve financial independence and contribute to their community. It will level the playing field by addressing systemic barriers to career success and ensuring that all students have equal access to career opportunities, regardless of their background. The Teacher Academy College Pathway will create a more diverse workforce. By supporting students, the structured pathways program will help address our teacher shortage.

CCEA is committed to supporting CCSD students. We are collaborating with the new CCSD Superintendent to ensure the successful implementation of the Teacher Academy College Pathway. Furthermore, CCEA is investing \$2 million to help offset costs for CCSD students, reinforcing our commitment to tackling the teacher shortage head-on.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to support AB 462 to help build a stronger future for Nevada's students and educators.

Respectfully,
Marie Neisess
President, Clark County Education Association

