

Chair Watts and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Assembly Bill 528. My name is Caitlin Gatchalian, and I am here on behalf of the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET), a public interest organization dedicated to advancing energy efficiency policy and programs across the Southwest, including Nevada.

SWEET supports AB528 because it strengthens Nevada's commitment to sustainability and resilience by modernizing the Green Building Rating System used to determine eligibility for tax abatements. By incorporating resilience-focused standards and updating energy performance thresholds, this bill aligns tax incentives with best practices in energy efficiency, carbon reduction, and climate adaptation.

SWEET believes that energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective tools available to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower utility bills, and enhance grid reliability. Policies that reward efficient design and retrofitting, such as the abatement program improved by AB528, play a critical role in accelerating the state's transition to a cleaner and more resilient energy future.

We are particularly encouraged by the bill's emphasis on:

- **Improved energy performance standards** that exceed local building codes;
- **Resilience credits** that acknowledge the importance of building durability, flood mitigation, and water efficiency;
- And the recognition of national best-practice systems such as LEED, SITES, and Parksmart.

AB528 ensures that Nevada's incentive structure continues to evolve with the industry while prioritizing projects that offer real environmental and economic benefits.

We respectfully urge your support of AB528. Thank you for your time and your continued commitment to energy efficiency and climate leadership in Nevada.