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TO: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025

FROM: Doug Unger, UNLV Acting Chapter President, Nevada Faculty Alliance, and Vice Chair, Government Affairs Committee; E-mail: (removed) Phone: (removed)

RE: **Support for AB 567 – NSHE Safety and Security Equipment Enhancements**

PUBLIC COMMENT – AB 567 - Urgent Need for Campus Safety and Security Funding

Doug Unger, Nevada Faculty Alliance. Thank you Chairs Monroe-Moreno, Backus, and Members of the Committee. We appreciate the care and discernment with which you make budget decisions amid the current economic uncertainties.

Notwithstanding, we implore you to please approve the one-shot funding allocated by AB 567 for needed infrastructure upgrades to support campus safety. Following the December 6, 2023 mass shooting at UNLV that murdered three faculty, two of whom I knew personally, those of us who worked on campus safety and security learned a lot. Active shooters assail a school, college or university somewhere in our nation with seasonal regularity. That such tragic violence on an NSHE campus might happen again feels like a matter not of *if* but *when*, and our schools are not yet as safe as they should be. UNLV has done what it can – reported expenditures are between \$4 and \$5 Million – but it's not enough. We need camera systems with centralized monitoring; website and video upgrades; increased numbers of campus police; renovations to buildings and public spaces; and doors to classrooms that lock from the inside so our teachers don't have to risk their lives, as they did on December 6th, when they stepped out into halls and swiped Marlok cards to lock the doors behind them. I've posted an Addendum page that outlines some of the infrastructure needs our NSHE Ad Hoc Committee discussed. The \$11 Million in AB 567 is less than a third of the funding needed, but it's a solid start that can save lives. Please make Campus Safety a top priority and vote to approve AB 567. Thank you.