

Nevada Faculty Alliance
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American Federation of Teachers
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TO: Assembly Committee on Education

Meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025

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

RE: A.B. 328 SUPPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT – SUPPORT for AB 328

Doug Unger, UNLV Chapter President, Nevada Faculty Alliance.

The establishment of a Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice under the aegis of the Board of Regents is long overdue. And I believe this Commission could cost much less than the fiscal note by NSHE—the Board of Regents already has an IDEA Council gathering data with the goal to improve access to Higher Education and it could share tasks with the Commission. We can count a dozen or more scholars on our faculties whose fields of study include the history, literature, sociology and economics of racism, including generational damage and trauma caused by the crime of slavery and its legacy of oppression for which these United States, and even our state—Nevada, a so-called “free” state in 1864, its first constitution written after passage of the 13th amendment—has never atoned, if such atonement is even possible. This Commission intends to find out. The knowledge it can discover and steps toward healing it can recommend can only be more freeing. We live in a not-so-long-ago unimaginable era when, in some states, the slave narratives of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, William Wells Brown and the Federal Writers Project are being ripped from school shelves by racist ideologues who seek to hide history and truth; the same with the literature of Richard Wright, James Baldwin, Toni Morrison and Alice Walker; and even more so contemporaries Ta-Nehesi Coates, Ibram X Kendi, and others. Read their books, listen to the descendants, and you know: in this sad era when truth is every day erased, A.B. 328 is a bold and courageous step toward its preservation. The Nevada Faculty Alliance stands up in support of AB 328, in solidarity.