

Chair Miller, members of the Committee,

In 2019 legislators, with the leadership of Senator Denis and Senator Woodhouse, passed SB543 which changed our outdated education funding formula. This formula however, without new funding, will continue to leave students facing the current conditions in our schools.

CCEA members have decided that it is no longer acceptable to be last in funding when the impact on our students is so great. Studies commissioned by the Nevada Legislature show that our education system needs \$1 billion more each year, above the current funding, to resolve our education crisis.

CCEA members have filed two initiative petitions to raise over \$1.4 billion each year of revenue for the State of Nevada. One initiative petition is a 1.5% increase to the Local School Support Tax (LSST), which will fund a billion dollars that will go directly into K-12 education. Under SB543, LSST funds cannot be supplanted for general fund needs.

The second CCEA initiative petition is a 3% increase to the gaming tax. This will increase State revenue by \$340 million annually and can fund education and other needed State programs (e.g., mental health, Medicaid).

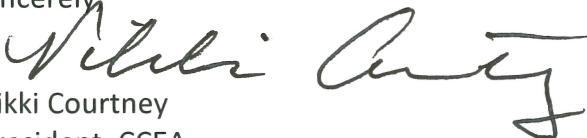
Without an introduction of new revenue, there will not be enough funding to address our State's needs in the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session.

Thousands of educators, tens of thousands of parents and the community want our school system to have additional funding. We hope this can be resolved in the 2021 Legislative Session by the leadership of this body and the governor.

If not, Nevada's voters will make this choice at the ballot box.

Our students need your leadership.

Sincerely,


Vikki Courtney
President, CCEA