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October 25, 2022

Rebecca Feiden
Executive Director, State Public Charter School Authority
1749 North Stewart Street, Suite 40
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2575

Dear Executive Director Feiden:

The [Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education](#) (COE) spent a significant amount of time during the 2021–2022 Interim considering recommendations made by a variety of stakeholders to positively impact education in Nevada. During the COE's work session on [August 30, 2022](#), the members identified multiple areas that they agreed should be priority items for consideration by the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA). Specifically, the COE endorsed the following recommendations:

- Encourage the SPCSA to continue looking at ways to address chronic absenteeism of pupils in Nevada's public schools, including charter schools. Examples provided in testimony during the [March 16, 2022](#), meeting include sending notices to families of chronically absent pupils, working with a local chamber of commerce to solicit support from employers, and forming other community partnerships aimed at supporting the district in strengthening the response to chronic absenteeism in schools;
- Encourage districts and schools, including charter schools, to support teachers in learning how to use assistive technology to show visually impaired students how to use the Internet and other resources in order to better navigate the system in postsecondary education or the workforce;
- Request that districts and schools, including charter schools, support cultural expressions in decorating graduation caps and other adornments for graduating pupils who wish to do so. This expression may include, but is not limited to, leis, beaded caps, and other cultural items; and

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- Encourage the superintendent of each school district and the SPCSA to continue to collaborate with schools, including charter schools, to inform teachers and other school personnel, especially new or potential employees, about the benefits of the Public Employees' Retirement System. As Chair of the COE, I respectfully encourage consideration to expand or require this training.

Thank you for considering the COE's recommendations and for your continued passion and work in furthering our education system. Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact the Committee's policy analysts, Jen Sturm, Jennifer Ruedy, or Alex Drozdoff at (775) 684-6825 or by email (jen.sturm@lcb.state.nv.us; JRuedy@lcb.state.nv.us; or Alex.Drozdoff@lcb.state.nv.us).

Sincerely,

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis, Chair
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education

MD/jk:W222998

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