

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING R099-17
WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT
MARCH 30, 2018**

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Please support and Stand up for gender diverse youth and tell the State Board of Education that Nevada school districts need policies and training on proper pronoun usage, public accommodations, and other issues affecting gender diverse students at school.

Barbara Farmer

In 1994, I was studying at the Bibliotheque National in Paris. Their solution to gender problems with washrooms was to have everyone go through the same door. There were wash basins and mirrors in the room, and off to the right were about ten small rooms with floor-to-ceiling doors behind which were the toilets. Why not consider this idea for Nevada restrooms? The costs involved will surely be less than all these lawsuits. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Barbara M. Small, D.Phil., Oxford University

I fully support SB225 and any other policy that defends and protects students of all gender identities, skin colors, creeds, sizes, IQs, eye and hair colors: in other words, ALL students. There is never any reason in this world to allow bullying, or discrimination of any type towards absolutely any person. If a student, teacher or administrator feels that they are better than any other student, teacher or administrator, then they are very simply, in the eyes of God, wrong. We are all created equal. Please, do the right thing and stand up for each other. Protect each other.

Lauri Macklin

My name is Max Kim Lowe. I am writing to you in support of this amendment to protect gender diverse students. By supporting this bill, every Nevada student will be able to have equal access to educational resources and be treated fairly. I believe that this bill will help integrate all students to our educational system by providing equal access to public accommodations in schools without fear of harassment and bullying. Again, thank you hearing my statement of support for this bill. **Max Kim Lowe, UNLV School of Social Work, Masters of Social Work student, Class of 2018, 8412 Bay Point Dr., Las Vegas, NV**

I am writing to ask that you ensure the good treatment and stand up for the rights of our youth who are transgender, gay, bisexual, lesbian or queer in any way. Nevada school districts need policies and training on proper pronoun usage, public accommodations, and other issues affecting gender diverse students at school. I trust that you will do this on behalf of our communities.

Laura Rocha, Minden Nevada

I would like to voice my support for the adoption of SB 225, and thank the Department of Education for moving forward with the proposed amendments to R099-17. SB 225 works to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment for ALL students, as per section 6 subsection (a) "in which persons of differing beliefs, races, colors, national origins, ancestries, religions, gender identities or expressions, sexual orientations, physical or mental disabilities, sexes or any other distinguishing characteristics or backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential." I also am fully supportive of subsection (d) which specifies that "All persons in a school are entitled to maintain their own beliefs and to respectfully disagree without resorting to bullying, cyber-bullying or violence." It is important that all schools be safe places for students to expand their knowledge without fear of being bullied, either physically or mentally, in any manner.

Erin O'Malley, Las Vegas, NV

I wanted to thank you all for moving forward with these regulations, and I hope the board will show its support for our gender diverse youth.

Michael Green, Las Vegas, NV

I am writing with Reference to the Proposed Amendments to R099-17 and want to thank the Department of Education for moving forward with these regulations as required by state law. I support the drafting of policies to protect gender diverse students. These would include training on appropriate behavior, pronoun usage, and definitions of harassment, discrimination and bullying, the revision of accommodations, as well as any other items that would help to provide a safe and equal learning environment for all students. **Joan Blumenfeld, Verdi, NV**

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I am writing with Reference to the Proposed Amendments to R099-17 and want to thank the Department of Education for moving forward with these regulations as required by state law. I support the drafting of policies to protect gender diverse students. These would include training on appropriate behavior, pronoun usage, and definitions of harassment, discrimination and bullying, the provision of accommodations, as well as any other items that would help to provide a safe and equal learning environment for all students.

Joan Blumenfeld, Verdi, NV

I am in support of SB225 in order to strengthen compliance with anti-bullying provisions in our education system and keep all our children safe.

Christina Smith, Social Worker II, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Carson City, NV

We are a new voice in the Carson Valley striving for reconciliation between the LGBT and FAITH Communities. With a foot in both camps we pray for you and all those charged with the responsibility for a safe environment for children and youth. Civility between the two groups would be a surprised blessing. Having spent much of my life in a classroom, I have confidence you are seeking sensible solutions to sensitive problems. I hope to hear the discussion tomorrow and offer any help I can.

Marvin G. Baker, EDD.

As the grandparent to a 13 year old transgender child, please change our school policies & train our education system so that she & others feels safe & welcome at school.

Kristie Lum

I am unable to attend tomorrow's vote regarding forcing the gender neutrality issue on our State's schools. Therefore, I am writing to you to express my emphatic opposition to this agenda. If I wanted to live in California, I would have moved there instead of making Nevada my home. A concerned citizen/voter in Nevada,

Ruth Roman

I am very pleased to see that you are allowing up to three minutes per person to make comments at the 3/30/18 meeting. A topic as important and complex as this deserves more time for adequate engagement, but it is better than the one minute afforded in other venues. So, thank you for being willing to really hear from the community. Also, I would like to request that any letter submitted to the Department of Education be included in the meeting minutes and included in the back up material. It appears that letters submitted at previous hearings are not accessible on the DOE website or included in the meeting materials. Where are these comments and what proof is there that information is being considered in the deliberation process? Finally, I respectfully request that adequate time be given for a representative who opposes the proposed regulations to address the committee and submit written comments in the same way that was afforded to Amber Reid in the previous hearing. I will be submitting a written comment regarding the proposed regulation later this evening.

Bryan C. Mortensen, Logandale, NV.

Since I won't be able to attend the upcoming meeting to discuss this topic, I'd like to provide my comments regarding this issue at this time. Freedom of gender identity and the expression thereof should be taught to and embraced by all employees of the Clark County School District (CCSD) as well as all county school districts throughout the state. Our society has erroneously defined gender as a binary construct instead of the spectrum that it truly is for too long and with catastrophic results. As a result, many young people feel invalidated and are forced/confined to a box that they do not fit in, so it is imperative for gender diversity to be normalized. This can be achieved by taking steps such as learning proper pronoun usage as well as making reasonable accommodations that ensure these students feel accepted and safe in expressing who they are. This will in turn foster an environment of inclusion that will not only help increase academic achievement but promote person growth as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anna Lim

I am writing in support of the Gender Diverse policies. I am a long time resident (35 years), active community member and mother of six children and grandmother of three born and raised here in Las Vegas. My children were taught to NEVER judge another person based on social status, ethnic background, the color of one's skin, religion, sexual orientation or gender preference, they were taught to only judge a person by the quality of their character. We lived in neighborhoods where my children were the only caucasian's, amongst the poor and indigent along with an abundance of criminal activity. My children had to combat reverse racisms on a daily basis, but I would not let that situation harden them, hate was never the answer in our household, because of this, I have adult children who have fought for our right to be free (Navy and Marines), teach in Title One schools here in Las Vegas, work to make our

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community better and yes, raise their children to welcome all in need, NO MATTER WHAT! I will never understand why it is taking so long for our LGBTQ students to get equal rights. We MUST evolve! The effects of a negative school environment are long-lasting and compounding. For example, a school climate survey recently released by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) found that students who experienced higher levels of victimization based on gender expression were twice as likely to report that they DID NOT plan to pursue post-secondary education. Further, when targeted at school, gender-expansive youth perceived to be LGBTQ face long-term effects on their mental health and life satisfaction as young adults. In other words, mistreatment at school is not only difficult as it is occurring but also has lasting negative effects. To combat this reality, schools MUST enact and implement

LGBTQ inclusive and affirming policies, like what the anti-discrimination education regulation intends to do. Look around you, everything changes, everything on this earth is in a continuous state of evolving, refining, improving, adapting, enhancing...CHANGING. We were not put on this earth to remain stagnant!- Dr. Steve Maraboli With the current climate, I am sure you are aware the children of our future have spoken on the existing homophobia that continues in our FREE country, along with gun control, equal rights, and the overwhelming racism. They are your future constituents, will you be on the right side of history?

LuAnne Austin

I am writing in support of the above proposed regulation R099.17. As an educator and a parent, I am aware how harmful bullying children about gender identity can be. I am a straight ally to those with other gender and sexual identities, and I know that creating a safe and respectful learning environment benefits all our children—regardless of their gender identity. As far as I can tell, my children's gender identity conforms to their biological sex, and I know they will benefit from a tolerant school environment that insists on respect for all gender identities and sexual orientations. My children have transgender friends, lesbian aunts, and friends with two daddies. Their lives are richer and more wonderful because of this diversity—they accept all of this as simply normal human life, which is as it should be. I support the Department of Education's attempt to make sure all of our children are safe and free from bullying in school, regardless of what their gender identity might be.

Erin Stiles

I am writing to express my concern about the need for policies and training in our public schools regarding our gender diverse youth. As a lesbian growing up in the 70s and 80s, I know how difficult it can be to be true to yourself but also fit in with the group. It is imperative that our schools provide a safe place for students to grow and learn about the power of diversity. Thank you for moving forward with these regulations as required by state law.

HollyNatwora

Thank you for taking the time to understand the importance of our students and their safety. I have been a teacher for 15 years; I have helped raise and educate up to 500 future adults... some now turning 18. In my years of teaching I have had various trainings from whole child development to child abuse prevention. Many of our trainings are required like cpr, fire safety and child abuse mandated reporting. Only in the last 5 years have some of the schools I have worked had the staff trained in Gender and sexuality issues. These trainings were a preemptive move from administration as a result of students of lgbtq entering into our programs, new staff unaware of students and lgbtq issues, and just education for future knowledge. I found these trainings not only informative but necessary. In recent years both national and state laws have drastically changed and yet progress in our everyday lives is slow. Children ask questions, children want to learn about the community and people around them, not to judge but to understand. As a student who's friends were of the lgbtq community I witnessed types of bullying that, in even a small school like Dayton high, was relentless. Though some teachers attempted to help Many were unaware and misinformed of how to help. " why are so loud with your sexuality?" " you wouldn't get picked on as much if you toned down how you dress." We're just some of what teachers said. Not to make them the bad guy it's of course the bully's and naysayers that are at fault. We were walking targets of ridicule, But our personalities and dress made the targets larger and brighter. As a teacher with students from various genders, sexualities, traditions and family dynamics the required trainings would be beneficial for understanding our students lives even if we don't always agree. I have always seen myself an advocate but was unaware of issues and vocabulary is necessary in our conversations with not just our staff but other families when questions occur. Before my trainings I simply new the basics of laws , definitions, and statistics. After, I am able to have a confident discussion about sexuality and gender, the difference, the issues , and the protocols of my classroom to teach not just kindness and understanding but to also be that teacher a student or family member can come to when they have questions. My job and life are my students; to provide an inclusive classroom is the basis of my teaching and any trainings whether cognitive or physical disability to family and life dynamics trainings that make myself and co-staff better teachers Please make it so. We know better , we do better, we are better. Thank you again for understanding the importance of our children's lives in education. Support senate bill 225.

Robyn Mazy

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Our Center, **Northern Nevada's LGBTQ community center**, writes in support of the Proposed Amendments to R099-17, NAC Chapter 388, promulgated pursuant to Senate Bill No. 225. Our Center believes all children are first and foremost human beings deserving basic respect from their peers and educators. They are entitled to a safe, public education free from the fear of bullying. As children grow, mature, and discover themselves, they should not be afraid at school because of how they identify or express themselves. Too often these days children suffer silently as they are marginalized, bullied, or demeaned because of their differences. Far too many LGBTQ youth contemplate suicide because of adverse societal interaction and messaging. This must end and these amendments can aid in that process. School should be about education and no child should need to fear going to school. Each and every child deserves to feel safe while learning. Therefore, Our Center is in support of the amendments.

On behalf of **Transgender Allies Group (TAG)**, I'd like to extend my thanks to you and to the hard working and caring souls you lead at the Department of Education for the State of Nevada. The careful drafting of R099-17, in compliance with SB225, has already helped the transgender community. Just the knowledge that there are laws and regulations that are to protect transgender people have a proven, positive benefit for transgender children. As this regulation is adopted and submitted to the school districts of Nevada, I suggest that those boards and administrations are helped to understand that this regulation, properly adhered to, will help them mitigate the liability risks that a violation of Title IX, Title VII and the 14th Amendment, as well as NRS 651.070, 613.330, and 388.132 would incur. While some folks have attempted to delay and divert this type of regulation and law, their arguments are false and lack logic. I'd like to refer you to the Seventh Circuit ruling in Whitaker which states: *that arguments that attempt to use "privacy" as a justification to discriminate is not "genuine" because it is "based on sheer conjecture and abstraction."* I suggest that this example may also help build understanding throughout the schools in Nevada. Last, I'd like to offer for any district in this state to contact us for training that can help them understand the transgender students that they will encounter. If you know of other specific needs that we can assist with, we are eager to help.

Brooke Maylath, President

Please vote to create policy. All of this delay only hurts our kids. Trans kids are not a threat to anyone. Groups like Power2Parent are demonizing our kids while saying they support all kids. The president of P2P, Erin Phillips has spread fear and misinformation, outright lies about the intention behind creating policy. Trans kids need to know that they can go to school and get on with their day without being questioned or accosted. Please vote to create policy. And then work to write the policy as quickly but completely as possible.

Jill James, Parent of a CCSD student

For the record my name is Sherrie Scaffidi. I am a board member of the following organizations; Transgender Allies Group, PFLAG Reno, and PFLAG Carson Region, I also am a volunteer at Our Center in Reno, which is an LGBTQ Community Center. As a 68 year old transgender woman, who is also a US Navy Veteran of the Vietnam era, I have seen much discrimination towards people that society in general sees as different. Our children, as well as all children, deserve to feel safe, free from bullying, and respected for who they are, no matter what. That includes gender expression, sexual orientation, race, religion, color, etc. To deny any child the respect that we all strive for is unconscionable. Therefore I believe it is imperative that the State Board of Education adapt SB225 as it is written, into policy.

Sherrie Scaffidi

I'm not sure if I will be able to attend today so I am sending my testimony over in writing to make sure it goes on record. In regards to SB225, I have a 10 month old little girl. She will one day very soon be a part of the school system here in Carson City. I worry about her safety for a lot of reasons. One reason I worry is that bullying and cyberbullying have become such a big issue for students these days. It is much worse than when I was a kid because you cannot even escape the bullies when you leave school; technology these days means that the bullies can reach you wherever you are. Children tend to bully even more when they don't understand someone. Whether that is because they have Autism and act differently or because they are LGBTQ (more specifically, if they choose to express themselves outside of the gender binary norms or go by a different pronoun than they did before), we owe it to these kids to try and keep them safe by educating other students on why they act differently and that it is ok. Diversity is a great thing and it makes our schools and country stronger. I'm not sure if my daughter will identify as LGBTQ or have some form of Autism but I can guarantee you that I will raise her, like I was, to respect people as best we can and on their terms. I hope this helps you as you begin to write the policy for this bill.

Rachel Nowlain-Sisk

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I wanted to first thank you and the Department of Education for moving forward with new policies to support our gender diverse youth in the Clark County School District. My 14-yr old daughter is transgender and is currently transitioning at her Junior High School. It has been rough for her and I have worked closely with the school principal to ensure her safety and that her needs are being met. Without a district wide policy my daughter has been left with a solution that is tolerable, but doesn't support her adequately as a female student.

I want to implore you to and the Department to review the policies of other schools who have successfully provided a safe environment for students in the bathroom use, PE locker rooms and overnight class trips. I attended the School Board Trustees Meeting last week and was concerned at the testimony given by people who aren't familiar with what it means to be transgender and their testimony was based in fear and ignorance. It is ridiculous to separate transgender students from the general population in any way and while I understand that all students need to feel safe, there is no more danger for a trans girl using the women's bathroom that there is currently. Being transgender doesn't preclude someone to violence or aberrant behavior. The fear that boys will dress like girls and perpetrate violence could happen today, without a transgender policy. Their argument is ridiculous. The facts are that gender diverse students are bullied and assaulted at much higher rates than other students. I have attached a "Model District Policy on Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students" provided by The National Center for Transgender Equality. I encourage you to use this as a model when crafting the policy. While I appreciate the use of public testimony, this policy should not be written based on ignorance or opinion without considering the facts. Please take the time to educate yourselves in what is happening in the transgender community and how best we can support our trans students. I have included several links to valuable resources that can help in crafting the policy.

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/schools-in-transition-a-guide-for-supporting-transgender-students-in-k-12-s>

<https://www.genderspectrum.org/bathroomfaq/>

<https://www.nassp.org/policy-advocacy-center/nassp-position-statements/transgender-students/>

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/national/article84797527.html>

Rev. Sandy Johnson, Boulder City, NV

The ACLU of Nevada supports the adoption of R099-17, which prescribes a policy for public schools when addressing the rights and needs of gender diverse students. As you are aware, NRS 388.135, Nevada's law establishing a safe and respectful learning environment, provides enumerated protections for LGBTQ students. SB 225, passed during the 2017 legislative session, expands these protections and now mandates that the Nevada Department of Education pass this regulation to provide students with diverse gender identities and expression with equitable access to the protections provided in Nevada's anti-bullying statutes. Specifically, this body is required by SB 225 to create a policy that includes:

Requirements and methods for addressing the rights and needs of persons with diverse gender identities or expressions (SB 225,

Section 9(2)(b) Training concerning the needs of persons with diverse gender identities or expressions; (SB 225, Section 9(2)(c)(3)) and Section 12(e))

The regulation at issue before the Board today appropriately addresses the requirements of SB 225 and works to protect and better serve the needs of Nevada's gender diverse students. Gender diverse students face insurmountable obstacles both in and out of the school setting. In fact, a 2013 National School Climate Survey conducted by the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network, found that nearly 75% of LGBTQ students reported being harassed at school because of their sexual orientation; more than half were harassed because of their gender expression.¹ Proper training and education of teachers and administrators in how to deal with LGBTQ bullying in light of the particular needs of LGBTQ students is critical. It is important for educators to be aware that gender diverse students face a unique set of problems which warrant specialized procedures, including privacy protections to avoid unnecessary disclosure of their gender identity or expression, and recognition of the need for LGBTQ students to defend themselves against harassment. Educators should be provided guidance and training on how to identify and address bullying as it pertains specifically to LGBTQ students. Not only is it good policy to pass the regulation at issue, it is statutorily required to do so. This body has an affirmative duty to adopt this regulation per body has yet to adopt the regulation SB 225, which received overwhelming bipartisan support in the 2017 legislature. SB 225 went into effect July 1, 2017, but this as required by law.² The unfortunate delay caused by a misunderstanding of both the policy and the statutory requirements by certain members of the public is legally problematic. We strongly encourage this body to move forward with action on this regulation, today, to protect this vulnerable population.

Holly Welborn, Policy Director, ACLU of Nevada and Amy Rose, Legal Director, ACLU of Nevada

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SB225 was debated, worked on, voted on, and signed into law nearly a year ago. There is no excuse for the delay in implementing it. Also, the arguments that this law is somehow discriminatory are absurd. It is and should be the role of government to protect the minority. Transgender students are most definitely a minority, and a marginalized one. There is a reason that this bill was passed -- in order to help and protect them. Of course there are many other marginalized minorities, and if there is enough reason and motivation to pass laws helping them, that would be great as well. But this law is about this particular group, and does not diminish the rights of any other.

Further, the continued mention of religion in the meeting today was offensive. This country's constitution guarantees a separation of church and state. That means that religious arguments have no place in government or in public schools in determining policy. At all. Please implement policies immediately in accordance with the law. Thank you.

Molly Rose Lewis

I'm sure everyone wants bullying to stop but why do you want to abuse and contaminate the potential good in SB225 by hijacking and contaminating so controversial a subject as transgender identification. I am sorry that parents have to deal with this issue but it is they who are the parents. It is not the job of the educational system to accommodate every issue of every child in every circumstance. The regulations being line-itemed into SB225 are unconscionable: You are trying to accommodate over 100 gender identities when only 2 genders are manifest in biological appearance. There is absolutely no reason of any kind to put biological boys into the girls privacy areas regardless of what these biological boys may feel like on any given day... A small percent of people are trying to regulate the rights of everyone else. Bullying is universal. We don't need to change our privacy rules and policies to neutralize bullying. Return discipline to the classrooms and to the parents. Why are we being forced into the world of transgenders by discriminating against over 99% of the people, who will be forced into their world. The educational budget should be spent on education and not whether a child is mistakenly identified as a he or she.

Ellen M. Shaw, Washoe County, Reno, NV.

I realize that I missed the public hearing, however I would like to add my insight to the matter. I am representing myself, and fully support the proposed changes regarding bullying. The anti-rhetoric on this issue is incredibly hate-based and has no evidence to support its stances. Please do what you can to ensure that this legislation is passed so that people of diverse genders and gender identities are fully protected and have the same rights and privileges as all other students.

Calvin Black, M.A., Advisor, Financial Aid & Scholarships, University of Nevada, Reno

I submit the following comments on the above mentioned regulation for your consideration and insight as to its final disposition. Please bear in mind that my life-long observation, study and analysis of human personality and community qualify me in a unique way to enter comments on the proposed regulation and the philosophy which informs it. Although my two masters' degrees and my doctorate were earned in religious institutions, they are grounded in sciences such as sociology, psychology, biology, history and international understanding as well as religious beliefs and practices of Jews, Latter Day Saints, Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Protestants of all kinds and Muslims. My experience working with youth is extensive including more than half a century in a variety of venues, thirty years as a scout master and chaplain, and several years as a substitute teacher in grades four through twelve.

Please note the following:

1. Who wrote the regulations? It is full of jargon and details so specific, and yet open to interpretation, as to be entirely unenforceable. Offense may be taken at the slightest failure on the part of students or school personnel to abide by what the one offended may feel on any given point. I am surprised that the way gender diverse persons tie their shoes, or the color of their clothes on Wednesday, or how they part their hair were left off the list!

2. I was targeted for my religious stance from the sixth grade all the way through high school. That included a ninth grade teacher screaming in my face that pursuing a religious vocation was a waste of my life and talents. Where is the detailed defense of religious students in your regulations? Or, for that matter, all the other categories in the anti-bullying law? Why is "gender diverse identity and expression" so specially, so specifically described? This regulation, as written, is inherently discriminatory.

3. Speaking from my extensive encounters with youth from every ethnic and religious group ordinarily found in the United States, I can say with absolute certainty that some child or teen will use this regulation to manipulate or punish parents, fellow students or an entire school district, even the state of Nevada. There are some young persons, usually coming from a dysfunctional family system, that learn early how to play the game of "gotcha". This regulation is an open invitation to do so.

4. SB225 (and similar legislation) and this regulation simply discard a century of psychological study and theory with no explanation whatsoever as to why it has been done. When did Freud become a fraud? When did stage theorists like Piaget, a cornerstone of educational theory for decades, suddenly cease to be of value? Where did the authority and science come from to take such action? This regulation presumes far too much.

5. Both SB225 and similar legislation, and this regulation are based on serious misconceptions. They are as follows:

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a. “The idea of fixed, immutable orientations in personality which result in predetermined identity and behavior.” This idea, which came into prominence in the early 1970’s to explain same-sex attraction, has no firm science whatsoever to support it. In a 2014 letter to the president of Uganda, the American Psychological Association and a number of other psychological organizations stated, “science does not definitively understand the developmental sources of sexual orientation in humans.” No conclusive science exists to declare fixed orientation a fact in same-sex, transgender, or other gender diverse persons. Law and regulation must accommodate what we know, not what we wish.

b. “Moving out of one’s orientation is not possible, and it is dangerous to try.” To put it bluntly, this misconception is a flat out lie because it utterly refuses to listen to and accept the life experiences of thousands of women and men who have moved out of same-sex and transgender lifestyles. (I can put you in touch with some of them at this very moment.) The claim is often made that no one has successfully made such a move. Once again, that is a lie which demeans and denies conscientious decisions made by people for a number of altruistic reasons. The regulation, as written, carries the meaning of this misconception and should be revised with the possibility of change included, or at least not excluded.

c. “Gender fluidity is possible, including transgender and at least one hundred gender diverse states as well.” This misconception is spread throughout the regulation. It is an extension of the idea of fixed orientation, to support gender diversity, and like so-called fixed orientation, it has absolutely no firm foundation in science. The claims of gender diversity have simply popped up out of virtual thin air. No one that I have heard of has stepped forward to explain how we can arrive at so many possible gender identities and how we can know they actually exist. Actually, there are two, and only two, fixed biological “orientations” in human beings: male and female, woman and man. We know there are at least 6500 genetic differences between a male and female. No amount of surgery or medication can transcend those differences. Therefore, all forms of gender diversity are a state of mind, not a state of body. This regulation must take reality into account.

d. “Feelings tell us who we are and what we must do.” This misconception is also inherent in the proposed regulation and is the basis for claiming same-sex, transgender, and other diverse gender states as one’s identity. Please note that feelings alone constitute that basis, and feelings alone expressed by someone are being construed as standing under law and acceptability in community. There is no objective, biological way to determine the accuracy or reliability of claims made about gender diversity or, for that matter, sexuality in general or any other human activity.

For decades, now, there has been a wave of what I call “feelings first philosophy” sweeping through Western societies. Especially in the area of sexuality this sentiment has taken root. It was expressed clearly by a twelve year old middle school student who looked up at me one day and declared, “I have a right to have sex with anyone, any time, any place I choose, and you have no right to stop me.” You may wonder why persons of faith so strongly object to this regulation and the law that prompted it. The reason lies in the teachings and principles of all traditional religions. Free conscientious choice must be in place at all times if actions and identities are to be ethically and practically valid. Furthermore, they must also be in accord with observable reality and vast human experience over time. If these tests are not present, traditional persons of faith cannot condone or accept either an assumed identity or the behavior that flows from it. As surprising as it may be to some, religion deals with reality.

Remember, following feelings can be extremely dangerous. The school killer in Florida and the increasing number of young girls committing suicide are only following their feelings. Racially motivated violence is fueled by feelings of racial hatred and bigotry.

In summary, I make the following observations. First, Gender diverse students should be expected to practice common courtesy toward others. They ought to use bathrooms, locker rooms and other school facilities in keeping with their present biological status. Since when must courtesy and kindness toward others be sacrificed on the altar of a single individual’s ego? Religious persons often surrender what could be construed as their “rights” in order to maintain peace and order.

Second, the proposed regulation pigeonholes children. It locks them into perceptions about themselves and what they are owed by society.

Third, it uses children to promote an agenda that has no legitimate grounding in science or reality.

Fourth, if schools are to deal with issues around sexuality, gender and emotionally motivated identity, let it be classes for those mature enough to discuss the wide range of working models of personality instead of presenting these matters as forgone conclusions. Human personality can never be conclusively defined.

Fifth, this regulation teaches assumptions not grounded in actual science.

Sixth, it will deepen divisions between people groups in Nevada and add to the deep animosity already in place toward government and the tendency to ignore due process, which goes far beyond what is being done to enact this regulation so far.

Dr. William P. Tarbell, Sparks Nevada

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INTRO – PRESIDENT OF PROTECT NEVADA CHILDREN; PARENT 3 kids still in NV public schools and 1 that graduated; I'm also a former K-12 teacher. These comments are not divisive and past experience has proven most listening will not disagree. In regards to Student Data Mining please know the ACLU (far left) and Tenth Amendment Center (far right) have come together to sponsor model legislation in at least 16 states (not Nevada) to PROTECT STUDENT DATA The following comments apply to ALL students in NV public, and public charter, schools. What I'm talking about is the fact that... The most sensitive, subjective, medical (including psychiatric), and discipline data on every public, and public charter school student in the state is stored FOREVER in at least two places without parental knowledge or consent. Infinite Campus (IC) And this Nevada Department of Education's (NDE) - System of Accountability Information in Nevada (SAIN). To view the data stored on our children in IC places parents have to make appointment with two different school officials. To view the data stored on our children in SAIN – Parents have to make an appointment with the NDE. NV is the only state in the nation that said it would cost \$10,000 for a parent to see the data stored on his children - that parent was me. Luckily the U.S. DoE got involved and told the NDE they could not charge me. What we discovered were a lot of mistakes in our children's SAIN records.

According to this RJ article said: **“Nevada is one of only five that have taken something like this, this far.”** NV is at the bottom when it comes to educating children, but we are at the top when it comes to collecting, and storing, their most sensitive data for life. No matter what your position is on the (Transgender issue) you should be concerned about the amount of sensitive, subjective, personal, discipline, medical (including psychiatric) data stored FOREVER on every child in the state - in at The stories are posted on our FACEBOOK PAGE, PROTECT NEVADA CHILDREN. Also on our page, we let parents know things they can do to protect student data like:

- 1) NOT allowing your 3-8 grader to take the SBAC test it's a 10 hour, secret, computer adaptive. This test is more of a student data tool than a CRT. There are only 12 states left (including NV) that still give the government sponsored Common Core test – the SBAC.

TIME (?) – SBAC must share all U.S. DoE, U.S. Govt. Accountability Office and many others.

- 2) ALSO, DO NOT ALLOW your children to log in and use “free” third party education websites – the profiles these vendors are creating on your children are much more detailed that the information Cambridge Analytica Facebook, and Google have on us adults. Parents will never see these profiles, and we have no idea how they will affect the future of our children.

Closing Public Comments

Intro – John Eppolito President Protect Nevada Children, Former K-12 teacher, Four kids in Nevada public schools. You can find us on Facebook at Protect Nevada Children. What just happened between Facebook and Cambridge Analytica is nothing compared to what's happening to ALL children, by design, in Nevada public schools. NV is at the bottom in educating students but at the top when it comes to collecting, and storing an incredible amount of data on our children - FOREVER without parental consent or knowledge.

- 1) IN REGARDS TO INFINITE CAMPUS (IC) AND NV'S SAIN (SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY INFORMATION IN NEVADA)

Starting in kindergarten *anything* children do in school may be documented in IC - WITHOUT parental consent or knowledge. To view the most sensitive, subjective, medical (including psychiatric), and discipline data, in a student's IC account, parents have to make appointments with two school officials. NIGHTLY, IC UPLOADS THE MOST SENSITIVE DATA ON ALL NEVADA PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN TO THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (NDE) VIA THE SAIN. DATA STORED BY IC AND SAIN IS NEVER DELETED, ONCE AGAIN WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT OR KNOWLEDGE!

At this point we still don't have answers from you the NDE, IC, or local Nevada school districts to:

- a) Why isn't the data ever deleted?
- b) How will the data be used in the future?

Maybe you could answer today...

2) EDUCATION SOFTWARE - When children start using “free” third party “education” software in school the software vendors will be creating profiles on ALL children, once again without parental consent or knowledge.

These profiles will be MUCH more detailed than the ones Cambridge Analytica have created on FB users, and much more detailed than the ones Facebook and Google have on us adults who use these products. Many of these third party vendors will also share student data with unknown 4th parties.

3) SBAC TEST – Most states have already dropped SBAC testing there are only 12 states left taking this: 10 hour, Secret, Computer adaptive, SBAC test in 3rd - 8th grade.

- a) This is an invalid assessment because not all students take the same test
- b) The SBAC test is more of a student data mining tool for third parties than a true criterion referenced test.

[The only ones who can ever see a complete test are the children taking it but...] Some experts believe the SBAC will be creating psychological profiles on students who take the test.

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FACEBOOK/CAMBRIDGE ANALYTIC NOTHING COMPARED TO STUDENT PROFILING HAPPENING IN NEVADA SCHOOLS

More parents are beginning to understand the dangers of schools, states, and third parties; collecting, storing, sharing, and analyzing student data. What just happened between Facebook and Cambridge Analytica is nothing compared to what's happening to our children, by design, in Nevada public schools. INFINITE CAMPUS (IC) - Starting in kindergarten *anything* your child does in school may be documented in IC without your consent. To view the most sensitive, subjective, medical (including psychiatric), and discipline data in student's IC account parents have to make appointments with two school officials. Nightly, IC uploads the most sensitive data on all Nevada public school children to the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) via their System of Accountability Information in Nevada (SAIN). The most sensitive, subjective, medical, and discipline data stored on our children by IC and SAIN is *never* deleted! At this point we don't have answers from the NDE, IC, or local Nevada school districts to: a) Why isn't the data ever deleted? b) How will the data be used in the future?

1) **EDUCATION SOFTWARE** - If your child starts using free third party education software, typically 2nd - 4th grade, the software vendors will likely be creating profiles on your child without your consent. These profiles will be much more detailed than the ones Cambridge Analytica have created on FB users. Many of these third party vendors will also share your child's data with unknown 4th parties.

2) **1:1 DEVICE** - A 1:1 Device is typically issued by a school to students. The only one who uses the device is the student it was assigned to. If your child takes a 1:1 Device from the school it is likely that everything you child does on that device will be tracked by Google or Microsoft, and possibly others.

3) **SBAC TEST** - If your child takes the 10 hour, computer adaptive, secret, SBAC test in 3rd - 8th grade consider: a) Computer adaptive means the test "adapts" as students take it, in other words student A and student B take different tests; making the SBAC an invalid assessment. b) At least during the testing window SBAC will be "monitoring" student's social media accounts, in the name of test security. c) SBAC must share raw test data on the 10 hour test with numerous third parties including the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and in Nevada the SAIN. d) Parents get the least amount of test data after approximately 10 hours testing. e) Since the only ones allowed to view the test are children, we cannot be sure about this but many experts believe - the SBAC test is more of a student data mining tool for third parties than a true criterion referenced test. Some experts believe the SBAC will create psychological profiles on students who take the test.

In Protect Nevada Children's next two town hall meetings we will inform parents on what they can do to protect their children. The meetings will be in Cold Springs and Sparks, dates and locations will posted on our [Facebook page](#), Protect Nevada Children, soon.

John Eppolito, President, Protect Nevada Children john@Jtahoe.com

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I was disappointed to learn that NDE scheduled a public hearing on a controversial topic during Spring Break and on a Holiday, when you know very few parents will be available to attend the meeting. It feels like it is being rushed and done through the "back door" so that parents who overwhelmingly oppose the transgender policy will not be available to speak. Please reschedule the meeting. Thanks,

Brian Rowley

I am writing as a concerned parent and Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician from Las Vegas regarding the proposed gender diverse policy being discussed on Friday morning. My concerns are as follows: 1) This is a very sensitive and important issue that needs to include discussion from all of the stakeholders, especially the parents of the students that will be affected. By holding the discussion during spring break, and on a holiday, it seems as if the DOE is trying to find a time that would result in the least amount of parent participation possible. 2) Section 3 2 e 1 implies that specific teaching will be given to the students regarding transgender theory. This is problematic for 3 reasons 1) students with true gender dysphoria do not require specialized teaching... they are just as capable as the other students. 2) students with true gender dysphoria do not need to be told they have gender dysphoria, they already know 3) students with anxiety disorder and/or autism spectrum disorder may falsely identify as having gender dysphoria when taught about transgender theory due to their other symptoms. This takes away resources from the students that truly have gender dysphoria and leads to false positives with the possibility of students choosing unneeded changes and later regret when they find that the changes were not helpful after a few years (this seems to be the cause of the surge in de-transitioning that many in the public are trying to ignore). Please encourage the DOE to choose a better time to discuss their recommendations and encourage revisions that would protect the students against the confusion that can occur when transgender theory is taught in the classroom. Thank you for your time, Sincerely,

Justin Rowberry, MD Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE RECORD! This email is in regards to the transgender policies and guidelines that are being discussed/considered for CCSD students, as well as students throughout Nevada! I am completely AGAINST a policy that disregards the rights of some, to accommodate another. Yes, transgender students have rights. My children also have rights! I am against a policy that doesn't consider the individual, but rather, enforces a blanket policy that will require everyone to follow policy, regardless of their individual circumstances. This is the very reason we use IEP's in our school system. They work for the individual, address individual needs, and provide the framework for success and progress with that student. Each transgender student should be addressed on a case-by-case basis! I am against a policy that forces my children to use certain pronouns or be reprimanded. I am against my child using a restroom or locker room with someone of the opposite sex. I am against allowing a boy that is transitioning into a girl, to play sports with/compete against girls! I am against the School Board making teachers and staff refer to a biological boy as a "she", even though her birth certificate says different. There shouldn't be consequences for the teachers and staff, or the students, in this case. As was brought up in the last CCSD Board of Trustees meeting, there are already guidelines in place. These guidelines simply aren't being addressed or used in our schools! The Anti-Bullying law is there to avoid harassment, bullying, or violence against any student, whether gay, straight, or transgender. These laws and guidelines are not being enforced in our schools! If we cannot effectively use and incorporate Anti-Bullying laws into our schools, what makes us think that a new policy for transgender students is going to help anything?!

We can write up all the policies we want, but unless we enforce them and encourage acceptance and respect at our schools, nothing will change. I know, because I have taught in the Clark County School District! Finally, if we demand that new policies and guidelines are implemented into our schools, and that students, staff and teachers abide by them, then where do we draw a line? Where is the line going to be drawn? If we allow transgender to go by their "preferred name," then we must also allow any and every student in the district to be called whatever they want, regardless of what their given birth name is on record. If we allow transgender to use the bathroom that they prefer, then we have to allow that for all students! If a 6 year old student identifies as a 16 year old (trans-age), then do we have to accommodate and allow that student to BE a 16 year old?! Where is the line going to be drawn!? I have been an involved citizen, CCSD teacher and parent for many, many years! I will continue to be involved! I would hope that you will consider these questions and concerns when making your decision. Your decision will not only impact the transgender community, but ALL students in every school in Nevada! On a side-note, I am extremely disappointed that you would hold a meeting of this magnitude (with this much attention and concern) on Good Friday, as well as Spring Break! It is frustrating for parents and community members that would like to participate in this process, but feel that they can't. Thank you for your time.

Mindy Davies 702-271-7344

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I am a parent of 2 CCSD students. Can you please intervene and reschedule the public input meeting regarding a policy for transgender kids? It's not fair at all to hold it during spring break when so many people are out of town. Please do what you can to change it as it doesn't give parents a fair chance to give input if they are traveling with their families. Can you also do something to make the process more transparent? I feel that the information regarding CCSD trustee meetings is hard to find and not appropriately advertised. I don't feel like it is fair to me as a parent that I can't get accurate and timely information. CCSD has parent emails. Why not make it clear to everyone how they can find information?

Erin Frehner

I absolutely agree with all of the statements below: "I want it to be on record that I absolutely disagree with any teaching of any child that gender is a feeling, not a biological reality. No person should be given permission to invade the privacy rights of another in a school restroom, locker room or overnight field trip.... or anywhere! Mandating free speech is a violation of the US Constitution. If a student is being bullied in any way, staff and administration should abide by and enforce the current anti-bullying policy. Teaching gender diverse lifestyles and choices without parental consent is a violation of parental rights and possibly their right to exercise freedom of religion. Please listen to PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS and GRANDPARENTS of children who are enrolled in schools.... NOT community members and/or organizations who have a social agenda and biases they want forced upon children. Crafting policy demands crafting how people will *police* that policy. Moving forward in drafting undesirable policies will have undesirable results. You cannot expect policy to bring about acceptance and if acceptance is the goal, *policing* policy will backfire. Teaching kindness and anti-bullying as the existing anti-bullying policy states is a solid foundation for ALL children and adults to follow."

Elli Jensen

SB 225 instructs the NV DOE to include parents in the development of implementation plans for SB 225 but you have chosen to work covertly with Gender Justice Nevada. How can you make a one size fits all mandate for all schools when the school district covers rule as well as city schools? We need guidelines that are flexible for local administrators to navigate on case-by-case basis. There seems to be continual efforts to keep the parents out of this process. March 30th is Good Friday and many families will be observing the holiday. I find it hard to believe that no one for the State Board of Education department has a calendar. Because clearly no one looked at one. I have contacted the Superintendent of Public Instruction and requested a reschedule for the meeting for a time when the public can attend and have their voices heard. They need to involve all voices, not just progressive groups with an agenda! Why are activists given so much pool on making policy when the majority of parents keep resisting such radical, extreme views? This is about the children as a whole not just a few. School district is known for being sneaky and dishonest with parents. Please stop attempting to use the anti-bullying issue to push a social agenda. When will the school district do it's job and worry about educating our children on scholastic matters and keep their noses out of becoming "superficial parents" influencing our children's beliefs? Need I remind you that the state of Nevada is one of the poorest performing education systems in the nation? Shouldn't we be focusing on that? Or do we not care that the rest of the nation is smarter and therefore able to have more opportunities in life post-education? Hear the voices of the parents not the activists.

Keshia Phillipenas, Parent of children in Grant Bowler Elementary School

I am very much opposed to mandating transgender indoctrination of our school children_of any age but especially of kindergarten and grammar school children. I also very much oppose taking away parental rights to be informed and to opt out for their children_if they so choose._All can be respectful of others without being forced to choose the same lifestyle. Please protect all of our children!

Valerie Shupe, Parent and grandparent

I am very pleased to see that you are allowing up to three minutes per person to make comments at the 3/30/18 meeting. A topic as important and complex as this deserves more time for adequate engagement, but it is better than the one minute afforded in other venues. So, thank you for being willing to really hear from the community. Also, I would like to request that any letter submitted to the Department of Education be included in the meeting minutes and included in the back up material. It appears that letters submitted at previous hearings are not accessible on the DOE website or included in the meeting materials. Where are these comments and what proof is there that information is being considered in the deliberation process? Finally, I respectfully request that adequate time be given for a representative who opposes the proposed regulations to address the committee and submit written comments in the same way that was afforded to Amber Reid in the previous hearing. I will be submitting a written comment regarding the proposed regulation later this evening. Thank you,

Bryan C. Mortensen, Logandale, NV. 89021

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We are writing in regards to the trans gender policy for education that is being developed by the Nevada Department of Education. We urge the Department of Education to adopt a policy that will protect the rights of families and allow parents to be informed and involved in the decision-making process of their children's education. We do not want policy that will take away parents' rights to teach their children morals and ethics. That is not the place of the school system, but it is the constitutional right of parents under freedom of religion. Please do not adopt policy that usurps the power that belongs in the home. Sincerely,

Bryce and Rebecca Hardy

How is it even POSSIBLE that the Clark County School District (CCSD) can say 'We did not know that Friday March 30, 2018 was on Spring Break AND also Good Friday when we put this meeting on the calendar'?! REALLY!? This is unconscionable. Not to mention unethical and probably illegal. This is no more than ethical slight of hand by the CCSD Trustees. You must declare this meeting illegal and de-certify any motions that are voted on at this meeting.

Dave Denney, Realtor

Please vote to create policy. All of this delay only hurts our kids. Trans kids are not a threat to anyone. Groups like Power2Parent are demonizing our kids while saying they support all kids. The president of P2P, Erin Phillips has spread fear and misinformation, outright lies about the intention behind creating policy. Trans kids need to know that they can go to school and get on with their day without being questioned or accosted. Please vote to create policy. And then work to write the policy as quickly but completely as possible.

Jill James, Parent of a CCSD student

I am a concerned parent living in Clark County who does not want Senate Bill 225 to change our education system, and hinder parental rights. This is a disregard for families in and not including, allowing unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender, infringing on a reasonable right to privacy of those born with that biological gender. This also includes them to be able to room with a biological gender in overnight trips because they identify with that gender. This change will cause curriculum to change in all of the publicly funded schools to include teaching to include gender theory. Please stop this abuse of our children. This is outrageous to think that the democratic outcry of a majority would be ignored. This is an abuse of our democratic process. You were elected to represent the people, all people and this infringement on parent's rights will not be ignored. Sincerely,

Mia Lowry

The scheduling of a meeting during Spring Break or on Good Friday is disgusting, disgraceful, and disappointing. To say that the Dep't of Ed. DID NOT KNOW their meeting was during Spring Break or on Good Friday reeks of dishonesty and phoniness. And you are the ones who are in charge of setting a safe and secure environment for our children? You are the ones who are bastions of truth and integrity?! This meeting scheduling charade is indicative of people in authority who have little or no concern for the majority of their constituents . . . but will do anything to further a belief/cause that is, perhaps, the most opposed viewpoint in my lifetime of parents against the educational system. Shame, shame . . . I am just one of tens of thousands of parents and grandparents who are disgusted with "the system" that uses one's authority to belittle, intimidate, and ignore parents instead of coming alongside them to work towards an equitable solution to a markedly divisive situation.

Bracy Ball, Las Vegas, NV

It is criminal the way you have ignored the wishes of the parents of students on this issue. You are undermining THE NORMAL STUDENTS' rights by shoving this agenda down their throats! What makes you think by taking away someone's rights and giving them to another group of people is right? There is NOTHING normal about these children who feel they are another sex than God created them as! You are also infringing on the religious rights of thousands of us, as well. I would pull my children OUT of public school and home teach them before I will let them be subjected to a situation that is SURE to cause havoc and mayhem both physically and mentally for straight students. You are forcing unconstitutional and dangerous agendas on our students and you should be ashamed of yourself! The transgender population is ONE PERCENT of our population, and for 1% you are putting the other 99% in grave danger! We will fight this tooth and nail and you will end up with a sparse number of students remaining registered and then lose your government funding, too. All for what? For the demands of the minority students who aren't even matured enough yet and have been influenced to THINK they are something they are not! You should be ashamed of yourself! Remember that when the first incident of rape occurs by someone pretending to be something they are not! God save your souls!

Power2Parent

I am appalled that the NV department of education is so dismissive of parent's voices. The parents have been vocal on these issues from the beginning, not against policies of inclusion, but supportive of all students. Clark County continues to have an agenda pushed by Carolyn Edwards to roll out the SB 225 policies before the state assembly has even passed it. Please note that being ahead of policy is not the primary concern because they are not even addressing the portion of the bill that speaks to students with disabilities. Working with students on a regular basis, tells me that we need to change the way we listen and address gender issues, but throwing out opposing parent opinion and allowing parents to be cut out of the conversation is absurd and unlawful. **Allison Noel, 89135**

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There is no metal detector keeping a pedophile from entering the girls bathroom. This bill is a rape waiting to happen. A visiting adult can easily enter, overcome a girl, rape, sexually molest a child or kill them. There is no protection to keep this from happening. And, there are cultures pouring into this country which accept this kind of behavior. Then, abusing the rest of the children for not calling them one of the 70 preferred pronouns takes the rights and freedoms away from the majority as they will be punished for bullying. No metal detector to keep a visitor, parent nor pedophile out of the children's bathrooms. There is one small group of LGBTQAI students wanting to use girl's facilities. There is another larger group of friends who have gotten on their bandwagon to support their choice and they are not mature enough to know what they are doing. Not thinking about future consequences. It is a clerical error to hold this meeting on a religious holy day, Good Friday. Please make the meeting short and reschedule the decision to another time.

Linda Buckardt, Henderson, NV 89052 buckalin@aol.com

Despite the holiday weekend, tomorrow I will show up at your building in Las Vegas for the meeting to discuss language for proposed bill 225. First, I'd like to say that it should be a priority of the Nevada school system to educate children in a safe environment. Sadly, we've failed at educating them as our schools continue to be ranked at the bottom of schools in the nation. This proposed bill will have the added effect of jeopardizing the safety and well-being of all our school children. Second, the proposed bill is requiring significant time and resources to accommodate less than 1% of the population at the expense and discomfort of the other 99% of students. How can a school district claiming it needs more money and ranked last in the country for providing education to our children justify this? The obvious answer is that they cannot. I am not insensitive to the needs of transgender children. They deserve concern and respect in their academic life. But this proposed bill ignores the concerns and comfort of 99% of the children who are in your charge 5 days a week. Despite significant feedback from the community that we do not support allowing coed restrooms and showers, the Nevada DOE has continued to push this agenda. Therefore, I ask that you abandon this heinous bill and work equally hard, using the same energy and resources to find a way to better educate the children of Nevada.

Linda Cannon, Las Vegas, Nevada 89135

I am very worried about what is going on. First, I'm saddened to hear the the NVDOE is holding their input meeting during spring break and on Good Friday. It feels a little disrespectful to the parents and students to whom you do your job for. If I could be there, I would be 100%. These things that are being passed are absolutely not ok. I will not have my child's privacy be threatened because others feel they need to change their gender. Anatomy is anatomy. Even if they feel it is wrong for them. There needs to be another option. Like a transgender bathroom and dressing room. My child does not need to be exposed to that opposite anatomy, especially when any student can say they feel they are the opposite sex to simply get into the bathroom and dressing room of the opposite sex. I also am shocked that you would feel it is ok to put opposite sexes together on over night field trips ESPECIALLY WITH OUT PARENT CONSENT. As well as wanting to bring in transgender theory into the classroom. ALSO WITH OUT PARENT CONSENT. These are CHILDREN. OUR CHILDREN. Their minds are so so impressionable and ever changing in these stages of life. Teaching about these things bring so many confusing things to their mind. If these things are implemented in the schools, I will absolutely be pulling my kids out of the school district and you will lose their funding for your schools as well. Please help keep these children innocent for as long as we can. Life is hard enough without pushing these matters down their throats.

Holly Stevenson

To the Nevada Department of Education and CCSD Board: My name is Lori Wagoner, and I am a concerned parent of two young children; the first will begin Kindergarten in Fall 2018. I feel strongly against this policy and need to have my voice heard, as I will be unable to attend the scheduled meeting on 3/30/2018. Please voice my concerns to the appropriate parties: 1. This policy is unnecessary as the children in question are clearly already covered in the current Anti-Bully Law. If you are determined to separate out this particular group, where does it end? There are many other groups listed within the policy (5137), yet no special policies or accommodations are being proposed for these groups ("actual or perceived age, race, color, nation origin, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical attributes, physical or mental disability of a person, sex, or any other distinguishing characteristic or background of a person"). The findings on your survey conducted in 12/2017 only 41% of those surveyed were Parents (those who in my opinion should be the number one most important group to gain approval from), and of that 41%, a mere 38% favored this policy. How has it gotten this far if clearly the Parents are NOT in favor of this or feel that the current policy covers the issue? 2. Trustee Carolyn Edwards has stated (CCSD News release 9/20/2017), "It's important that all students, including gender diverse students, feel safe, secure, and respected on our campuses." I agree wholeheartedly, which is why I believe they should be allowed to use their own private facilities. The majority of children (to whom this proposed policy does NOT apply to) will be asked to put aside their feeling of safety, security and respect for an extremely small minority. Why should children be placed in a potentially threatening situation to appease one sub-section of a group? Sexual predators exist. They look for ways to target innocents; why give them an easy target? In a #metoo society why are we putting our most cherished people at risk? I want privacy for ALL, protection for ALL. This is not the way to do it. By trying to "include" this small group, you are excluding the larger majority of the student population and actually putting their well-being at risk in the process. 3. Excluding parents from the discussion of gender identity is wrong and should not be considered at all. As a Parent it is MY job to teach MY child about their body, sex, and identity within their home. By saying it is acceptable to remove the parent from this discussion, you are breaking apart the family structure,

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something that is so crucial to children. The school's duty is to educate my child on agreed upon curriculum, not try to push ideologies. Just as the Church has been restricted from public schools, so should liberalist agenda - it does not fall within mandated curriculum and has NO place in schools. 4. The findings outlined that this new policy will not incur additional costs for the school district is naive, as you will be required to have additional monitoring in place for such a policy to be successful, not to mention the potential cost incurred for lawsuits related to such a sensitive and fluid matter. I urge you to listen to the Parents. I have compassion and empathy for people that are different from me, and I aim for my children to be equally as caring and considerate of others. But forcing someone else's ideologies and beliefs on me and my family will not be tolerated, just as I refuse to force my way of life onto others. I hope this email is clear, but should you need clarification or desire to speak with with me further in regards to this policy, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. **Lori Wagoner**, 520-979-1957

I have 3 children enrolled in CCSO and I am asking that the policy including teaching gender theory not be included in the policy. Please consider the the voice of the majority and come to a conclusion that better fits everyone's needs. Please don't include teaching of gender theory with out parental permission. **Brittany Meng**

Please record this email as a vote to protect the rights and safety of ALL CCSO students, not just those suffering from gender dysmorphia. Surely we can come up with a solution that will correspond to the needs of all, rather than allowing the agendas of a few to overrun the safety and privacy of the majority. Those who struggle with gender confusion need support and understanding, however, the desire to provide this should NOT trump the needs and rights of their fellow students. Let's not let the tail wag the dog. Please don't invade the privacy of our children by forcing them to share restroom and locker room facilities with members of the opposite biological gender. **Laena Shiozawa**

As a parent of CCSO I am so sad. Sad to see our trustees not working with the general public and parents to create a gender diverse policy that includes us. Instead they hold a meeting over spring break. Knowing these parents will not be able to come. They on purpose told parents from P2P group that they only consulted with gender diverse group. That they never consulted with parents or other admin. So basically as a board you really do not want parents involved with this. You just want us all to accept what you put in to place and we just have to deal with it. I have children dealing with both sides and wish that as a parent we had a say in this. I know who not to elect moving forward if this school district does not start including the parents in these big policy changes. I hate feeling like nobody is listening or caring about what any of have to say. That only gender diverse people and groups and the trustees have a say. What. That does not even make sense why you would do things the way you are doing it. This meeting should not move forward to vote to change SB 225. This is not right. When is someone going to take a stand and start listening to the parents. And letting us be apart of something that is this big of a deal. **Marie**

My name is Mandie Matheson. I have 5 students attending Clark County School district. I have students in the Elementary, Junior high and high school level. I have been more than upset by the actions of Clark County School Board of Trustees regarding this matter. They have broken open meeting laws, and diminished parents feedback at every public meeting that has been held, despite the majority of voices pushing to vote against the adoption of a new policy. I understand that as The Nevada Department of Education you are separate from Clark County School District. However, I find it very important for you to realize that despite their very politicized vote (listen to the comments by Trustee Lola Brooks at the end of the meeting on 3/22/18) to move forward with the adoption of a new policy, THIS IS NOT THE DESIRE OF THE MAJORITY OF PARENT. Several of our Trustees have completely lost the trust of parents as they have joined hands with special interest groups and ignored and even ridiculed parents' voices and opinions. I am deeply concerned that by accommodating the rights of an estimated 1% of students who have CHOSEN to identify as a sex different than their biological sex, will gravely and negatively affect the rights of the 99% of students who choose to continue to identify with their biological sex. These students have CHOSEN to be different, that choice comes with consequences. My children CHOOSE to dress differently, speak differently and have standards different than many of their peers. They will not participate in athletics on Sundays which most club sports now do. This sometimes comes with ridicule and it too has its consequences. As a parent I continue to assure them that these consequences are worth the good choices they are making in their lives.

I do believe that the transgender students should be protected under Anti-bullying laws, just as I believe my children should be. However, at the point that we start spending needed funds to accommodate personal choices of a few and rob the schools of needed monies for security, better education and even counseling I believe this is a huge injustice. For kids in wheelchairs they have a few areas that are wheelchair accessible. The school do not require that every set of stairs be replaced with ramps or that every locker room and bath room has every stall wheelchair accessible. It is set up so that these students are protected and have accessibility but not at the cost of other students. If there needs to be single stall bathrooms that are Unisex- so be it. But only approach in the schools/individual circumstances where this is an issue. As a coach I am gravely concerned at the impact this will have on my Female athletes. Many of them are very self conscious dressing in front of their female peers, let alone members of the biological opposite sex. There is also a grave injustice when males who identify as females or females who are "transitioning" and thereby increasing their testosterone levels begin participating in female sports...Talk about title ix issues. Or what about the kids who are required to change in locker rooms for PE but are uncomfortable changing in rooms with those of an opposite biological sex? Do they have to get an F or do they get a variance or

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do they get a pass to wear what they want, even if it isn't appropriate for the days' activities? I know that these are only possible long term ideas, but if the door gets opened ...the flood will come. And where is the line drawn. If my student identifies more with a teacher than a student, should they be allowed into the teachers lounge because that is where they feel more comfortable? Again I do support and believe that bullying laws should cover the Transgender students, just as they should protect all students. However no matter what accommodations the schools make, it will not be good enough in the special interest groups' eyes. They will continue to push and raise new issues and it will become difficult for teachers and administrators to effectively reach their students and provide an adequate education as they will be inundated with complaints and concerns from all sides. As a parent I urge you to listen to the voices of the majority of parents as this is not just a small majority but is a HUGE majority. I urge you to consider the rights of 99% of students who will be affected by changes, if implemented. Please protect these students under the Anti-bullying laws and counselors where needed as this is the greatest concern (their mental stability). In doing so you will also continue to provide needed services for kids who feel left out, or not accepted for any number of issues that are present in their lives. **Mandie Matheson**, Logandale NV 89021

I am a parent of four CCSD students and I wanted to voice my concern about the possible transgender policies the NV State Board of Education is considering. I do agree that a policy needs to be written, as it is now a state law, but I absolutely disagree with some of the proposed policies. I am not overly concerned about small changes to the policy, like allowing graduating students to dress as they would like to, having their name announced as they would like it, and having them addressed as they feel comfortable. I am not opposed to helping transgender students feel comfortable at school or at their own graduation. Where the problems begin, in my opinion, is when transgender students are allowed to use the bathroom or locker room facilities they feel comfortable using. My daughter, and a large majority of the other students affected would definitely feel uncomfortable undressing or using the restroom if someone of the opposite sex, regardless of how they identify, was in the room with them. While I am definitely concerned about this, I am much more concerned about males (or females) who say they are transgender to gain access to private areas for students. There are many instances where this has happened and we are setting ourselves up to have many more victims. I do understand that transgenders feel uncomfortable using their assigned locker room or rest room, but there has to be another alternative for them. It doesn't make sense to go from a few students feeling uncomfortable to many students feeling uncomfortable and maybe being victims. I am also concerned about any changes in intramural and interscholastic activities, especially if this concerns sports. I have a daughter who competes in sports and while she is an incredible athlete, there is no way she can always compete with males. They are biologically different and there is no getting around that. My concern is that if we allow students to compete where they feel comfortable, you can say goodbye to female sports. They can't compete with males. There is also the issue of out of town trips where hotel rooms are shared. Biological males and biological females can never share a room - no matter how someone identifies. Any kind of policies heading in this direction, even if small can open the door to what I talked about above. Another big concern I have is that there may be a new curriculum taught in the schools about gender theory. There is no way a school should be teaching my child about gender. That is my job as a parent and the school have no right to teach that. I am also very concerned about any policies that choose to take the parents out of the decisions about their children. Parents are the main caregivers to their children and the schools have no right to try and take their place. I understand that some students don't have great parental support, but let's help them and not take away the rights of all other parents who are engaged and concerned. Thank you for your time and please DO NOT take the parents out of the equation. **Michele Anderson**

I am a concerned parent of two kids from American Prep Academy. Reading the Bill I find it very disturbing that anyone who chooses to Affiliate as another gender can do so without scrutiny. This can be a slippery slope effect. Having this hearing on a day/week were most people are not here to debate or voice opposing positions it's an atrocity. This cannot be done one sidedly. I am submitting my grievance with this bill via email, since I cannot be there in person. The school board should be ashamed of themselves for ignoring the opinions of concerned parents and kids. Sincerely,
Rochelle Hamatian, Chelleylv@yahoo.com, 702-353-6950

I have grave concerns for the safety of our children, especially our girls. After gaining clearance from the office, any adult, pedophile, or those whose religion approves of this, may enter a girl's bathroom and cause physical harm to a girl. They may bully, do physical harm, such as throw acid in their faces, molest and/or rape these defenseless children. SB 255 is an extreme bill which doesn't have the majority of children in mind. If a child does not call their peer by the correct pronoun out of 70 possible, a child will be called out for bullying and disciplined unfairly. Think about K-5 children in particular, who do not have the maturity nor comprehension for their innocent actions nor words. Having been a teacher myself, now a grandma, the classroom can become a chaotic nightmare. We need to teach the children the 3 R's instead as NV is still in last place educationally. Our state has one of the strictest anti bullying regulations in the nation. This stifles free speech. There are two separate groups who want these rules. One, those who are LGBT and then a larger group of friends who support their friends. For years, I have been following this U.N. mandate around the world and in many states where parents have also protested this overbearing demand. Lastly, we need to respect that this is Good Friday and that most families are out of town. Kindly reschedule this meeting and your decision. Give power back to the parents. Respectively submitted,
Linda Buckardt Henderson, NV 89052, buckalin@aol.com

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We are out of town... very convenient that you have the meeting then. We fully oppose teaching our children this. This is not science. This will not be stood for. This is disgusting that you would even think about teaching my sons this. If you can prove that any of it is biological or scientific we can discuss it, but because you cant, keep it out...

Lattamore Osburn lattamore@gmail.com

There are only 2 genders. My children do not recognize validating someone who pretends to be something else. My son thought he was a lego figure for a summer. He's over it now. The school system has no right to force my children to believe in something we find morally, scientifically and religiously wrong. My children will not share a bathroom, locker room, or a room on an overnight trip, with someone of the opposite sex. That is inappropriate, and I will remove my children, and home school, or find another alternative. Instead of allowing this behavior, perhaps you should put forth an effort to address mental illness, and give these kids the counselling they need. These kids are crying for attention for Christ's sake! Thank you.

Deborah Farino <deborahfarino@gmail.com>

I write to express my concerns with Senate Bill 225. As a parent of young children who attend schools in Clark County, I recognize that each family is diverse in their beliefs, upbringing, and social ideals and you are trying to reconcile these diversities. However, in the process, you are infringing on the rights of many to appease relatively few. I recognize your desire to create safe spaces for children who don't identify with their biological genders, but in doing so the remaining children are made to feel unsafe. The newest policies threaten the safety of all children. As it stands now teachers can enter locker rooms and bathrooms of same-gender children if a problem arises or to ensure kids are following the rules. How will these new policies affect that? Will teachers of the opposite sex be able to enter a locker room where girls and boys are changing? If so, how do they (the teachers) feel about that and is there any concern about objections or inappropriate allegations arising from such incidents? I know my children are uncomfortable about the idea of changing with members of the opposite sex, whether or not they identify as such. They find discomfort in this not because I have raised them to be, but because they recognize gender differences that exist biologically. If you were truly concerned about those who are undecided about their gender, perhaps they would benefit from a private space away from others who may naturally look at them curiously.

I have similar concerns with regards to overnight trips and room arrangements. I also have concerns about gender theory instruction in classrooms. I have seen the gender theory instruction classes given to adults, and it is very confusing for those with college degrees. I can't imagine how children are supposed to digest these concepts, get the terminology straight, and not be left with questions spinning in their minds. As it stands, Nevada's last national ranking at 51 out of 50 states (including the District of Columbia) indicates that our educational efforts need to focus more on academics, in particular, math, science, literature, and constitutional studies. This confusing curriculum not only distracts from essential subjects, it also oversteps parental rights to determine what they feel is an appropriate age to teach their children about sexuality and social views. As a concerned parent, I speak for many others who are worried about the long-term effects SB 225 will have on our already failing educational system in this state and the emotional welfare of our children. I respectfully request that you consider all children affected by this bill, not only transgender youth. Please respect both sides by offering individual spaces to those who feel uncomfortable changing around others rather than forcing others to be uncomfortable so they can feel at ease in their transgender or non-binary identities. I also request an opt-out clause for parents whose children are not mature enough or ready for gender theory instruction.² Again, I would like to emphasize that given our bottom state education system placement we should focus solely on academics and leave the process of conforming to ever-changing social ideals for future times when students are more emotionally mature and able to make informed decisions on their own.

Jamie Brooks

My name is **Wendy Jensen** for the record. I currently have 3 children who attend CCSD schools and will soon have my last child enrolled in CCSD schools. I am unable to attend the public input meeting on Friday March 30, 2018 on proposed language for Senate Bill 225 because we are out of town for spring break. I thank you for allowing me to email my comments, as I am very concerned about the proposed language for SB225. I have 3 boys and 1 daughter. I have grave concerns about opening the restrooms and locker rooms to students who identify with the opposite biological gender that they were born with. I teach my children to be kind and accepting to all children, no matter their race, religion, sex, handicap, etc. I truly believe that all children should have a safe and comfortable learning environment. I believe all children should be able to feel safe doing their most private business of using the restroom and changing their clothes or showering in a locker room. I want to make it very clear that I am not worried about the transgender students preying on my children while using these very private places. However, I am concerned that with unrestricted access to these private places, that we are giving free range for predators to take advantage and prey upon our children. We live in a world where sex trafficking, pornography, and sexting is rampant. Most kids have smart phones and could use those smart phones to take pictures or videos in these private places and then post on social media. I do not think this is a far fetched statement because it happens all the time outside of school. When I asked my children how they would feel if they saw a boy or a girl in the bathroom or locker room with them, they very frankly said "I would not use the bathroom or locker room. I would feel too uncomfortable." A solution to this problem would be private, locking, individual stalls, with the sinks on the outside. I envision it similar to a porta potty where both men and use it because it is a private stall. Now the topic of over night field trips. The only solution to this is individual rooms for all students. I would never allow my child to sleep in a room with a biological male. There has also been discussion of no

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parental notification on this matter. **DO NOT TAKE PARENTAL RIGHTS AWAY!! THESE ARE MY CHILDREN AND I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR WELL BEING!!** Lastly, why on earth would we be teaching Gender Theory? This is not scientific!!! When we study biology we know that we have an X or a Y chromosome that determines our biological sex. This is what we need to teach! **THE FACTS!!** We don't teach religion in school because it is someones belief and we have no facts to back it up. This is something we teach in the home and we need to keep it that way. Again, there is discussion of teaching Gender Theory without parental notification, **DO NOT TAKE OUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AWAY! PARENTS NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS.** I do have to ask the question: Why are we only addressing transgender students? The bill clearly states pupils with disabilities and pupils with autism spectrum disorders. I have not heard one word about this group of children. We cannot pass a regulation that gives rights to one group of children and infringes on the rights of others. **ALL CHILDREN NEED TO BE PROTECTED! ALL CHILDREN NEED TO FEEL SAFE AND COMFORTABLE AT SCHOOL. PLEASE DO WHAT IS RIGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN AND NOT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS PUSHING AN AGENDA!!** **Wendy Jensen**

You worthless pukes should be ashamed and jailed...though this crap you're pulling is 'business as usual'...so utterly pathetic.
Chris Watters, Reno, NV

I am unable to attend the meeting today due to my family being on vacation for spring break. I wanted to express me concerns regarding the proposed policy changes. I am opposed to any policy change that would allow students access to bathrooms or locker rooms of the opposite biological sex. If a policy is enacted of allowing transgender students ti use the restroom or locker room of their choice, I feel this potentially could open the door to individuals that might choose to abuse that policy for their own gratification. Such a policy would fail to protect ALL students right to privacy. Please consider an alternative policy such as having transgender students use gender neutral lockrooms and restrooms. I also am opposed to and policy that would have a student share a room on an overnight field trip with someone of the opposite biological sex. I am also opposed to any policy changes that would introduce gender fluidity as part of School curriculum. Teaching such principal would be opposite of the fundamental beliefs of my family and I believe parents should make the choice about what to teach their children regarding these, and all such, moral issues. I urge you to carefully consider the rights of ALL children when deciding how to move forward with these policy changes.,

MaryAnn Dillard

I am a parent of three children. My family resides in Las Vegas. I am intensely opposed to the Nevada Department of Education adopting policy that: 1) Allow schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission.2) Allow students who identify with the opposite biological gender access to intimate spaces at school such as bathrooms and locker rooms. 3) Allow students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. Every parent of school age children is also opposed to these type of policies. I understand the need to prevent actual bullying; however, all students should feel safe. I'm more than willing to speak with anyone from your department. **Brent Quist**

In spite of outcry from parents in Nevada, the Nevada Department of Education has moved forward with a public input meeting to discuss and take possible action on proposed language for Senate Bill 225. The timing of this meeting, Friday March 30th, is during Spring Break for 409,000 students (out of 492,000 in the entire state) in Clark County and Washoe County. March 30th is also Good Friday, a religious holiday observed by many families in Nevada. The NVDOE claims that you didn't know about Spring Break or Good Friday when you scheduled a meeting centered on a proposal that will affect every child who attends public school in Nevada. The many calls, complaints and emails submitted by frustrated parents have been ignored and the meeting will go forward as scheduled. We ask that you consider in this meeting how this language will affect families in Nevada. You are in total disregard for families in scheduling and policy language that could mandate the following: Allow unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender, infringing on reasonable right to privacy in intimate spaces at school. Require students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. Allow schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. Understanding that many of our families are out of town, we ask that you cancel this meeting and reschedule for a time that is convenient to the people that matter in this, the students, families, and people that pay your wages and taxes.I'm sure that you will make your decision without regard to the people that it affects, on either side. Your decision will affect everyone but only impact one side of this argument.

You will have no regard for the other sides feelings or wishes.For those that are affected negatively, those families should all pull their children out of the public schools and home school them until the School Boards will have only enough federal funds to pay for the ones that are left, this will hurt them where it counts, in the pocket book, and maybe they will make decisions that are correct and not one sided, and the indoctrination of our children to Marxist and communist reasoning will end and we will again teach our children the truth about America and it's history.We suggest that you designate one bathroom in each school to be strictly non-gender and those that are confused and can't decide who or what they are can use that bathroom, without affecting the other students in the school. After all you have already designated handicapped bathrooms and family bathrooms, so designating a non-gender bathroom would be appropriate and reasonable to all. We, the voters, will remember this at the upcoming elections this year in May / June and again in October / November. And for a long time to come.

The McDaniel / Pineda Familes and 26 members of our family in Nevada Las Vegas, Nv 89107 702-870-0424 tele

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My husband and I are very disappointed to learn of your scheduling a public input meeting on a topic as important as school gender policy during spring break and on a religious holiday. Please know that we are adamantly opposed to letting transgender students use the bathrooms or locker rooms, or sleep in the hotel rooms assigned to students of the opposite biological gender. The privileges of a very small minority should not infringe on the rights, privacy, and safety of the large majority of students. Where will the line be drawn? Will this lead to coed use of all facilities? Why wouldn't it, when there are those whose gender identity changes with fluidity? A student should use the facilities aligned with his/her sexual organs, not his/her clothing. I am an educator by trade, and I come from 2 generations of public educators before me. We ourselves are products of the public school system. But as that system caves to the immoral pressures of the extreme liberal left to force policies and curriculum to which we are personally and religiously opposed upon our students, we will have to strongly consider, for the moral and physical protection of our children, pulling them out of school. Please consider what's best for all students in Nevada as you review this sensitive issue. Sincerely,
Amber Brunjes, Las Vegas

Thank you so much for your service to our community. We hope that we can reach out to you to hear the voice of the people. It seems that our Clark County School District (CCSD) Trustees have no desire to fulfill or even hear the voice of the people here locally in Las Vegas. We desire that we have our voice heard at this time about the issue of the gender diversity policy. It seems that the CCSD Trustees are seeking to fulfill their own politics instead of hearing what the people desire. They are continually avoiding allowing the public outcry to be heard. One meeting they claimed they would hear the issue, but did not allow the public to comment. The next meeting they tried to be secretive about. Now, they are holding a meeting during Spring Break so that families that care about the issue may be out of town. We are upset with this lack of sympathy and actual disregard to the voices of the issue. If the Trustees pass the legislation of determining policy based upon their own views, I think they will forget about the safety and security of our children. It seems dangerous to allow kids and teenagers to "identify" with another gender when they are still children. Allowing them to act upon these statements will result in endangerment to other kids. I am thinking about the boy named Maysen Melton who attended Shadow Ridge High School and has been indicted for rape of at least 4 girls there.

What if, before he was caught, he said he identified as a girl and then he was allowed to be with girls in the bathroom, locker room, etc. where there is no adult supervision and nothing to prevent him from attacking girls. I think that this could and will happen if they continue with their policy. I also think that this will be an open gateway to sexual activity and other problems. Allowing kids to be in a place together where there is no adult supervision is crazy. Who is to say who can go in what room? It seems that this will open a flood gate of trouble for parents, staff, teachers, etc. I think it will just add another burden to already overwhelmed people. Also, I feel that allowing the CCSD to come up with moral lessons that I, as a parent, have no say in is completely overstepping their bounds. We are facing a cultural crisis right now. We have seen it in many public squares. We are listening too much to what is taught via media, politicians, lawyers, etc. This message seems to be that "whatever we want is what we should get."

By allowing this gender policy, I believe it will continue this thinking and further escalate episodes of school violence and bullying. I also know that many parents are getting tired of this continued threat toward family values in the ongoing parents vs. school district battle. Any type of sexual or gender teaching should be done in the home because of moral conflict. It is not the place of anyone to teach this to kids, unless asked by the parents. The CCSD seems to be incredibly naive in thinking that the school district could possibly represent the values of each family fairly. We just ask that the school district teaches respect and love to others even though they have different values. It is already very obvious that this is not the case with CCSD Trustees. They have no desire to listen to or even tolerate other views. I have three boys. I can only imagine the embarrassment and possible trouble that may be involved in allowing girls to be in the same bathroom, locker room, or even possible hotel room. I feel that our rights will be infringed upon because we disagree with the CCSD Trustees. I will home school them before I allow them to be involved in this. I hope that you will fairly represent us as people in our thoughts and our opinions. We are frustrated because of the lack of concern the CCSD Trustees have placed upon this issue. Thank you for your time. Sincerely,

Kathy Bagwell

Please let me express my frustration in that fact that a meeting of this magnitude, with this much interest and concern, is being held on a religious holiday AND spring break for the 5th largest school district in the nation! It strikes me as odd that this was overlooked! I would have attended, had I been given a different date and time for this important meeting! I am a parent to 4 children, 3 of which attend CCSD schools. I am extremely concerned about the transgender policies that are being considered for school districts throughout our state. Under Senate Bill 225, you are not being asked to create a transgender policy. From my understanding, you are simply being asked to follow anti-bullying laws that are already in place, but aren't being used to their full potential. My major concerns with the new policy that is being considered, are as follows: - Allowing unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender, into a restroom where there should be a reasonable right to some privacy. (My understanding is that Washoe county is currently building 2 new schools that have unisex restrooms. There is a common area for washing your hands. A "monitor" is going to be there to watch the area.) So, tax payer dollars are going to be spent for a "monitor" to walk around and make sure that kids aren't getting out of line due to these unisex restrooms?! That is outrageous, if you ask me! -This policy will require students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips and events without parent permission. I

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am completely against this! As a parent, I have the right to know everything that is going on with my child. When my child is absent, I get an automated phone call from the school, letting me know.

When my child's lunch account is overdue, they notify me. When there is a PTO meeting or school activity, I am notified. As a parent, and as parents across this state, we have a right to know what is happening with our children!- I am not okay with schools teaching gender theory in the classroom without parent permission! Again, this is a very important, sensitive topic and process for those involved. Parents absolutely MUST be involved in this process!! - As parents, we have a responsibility to protect our children. I do believe that transgender students have rights, but every child in the state has rights also. How can we take away the rights of one, to appease the other!? CCSD has current guidelines in place already, that focus on the needs of transgender students on an individual basis! Just like an IEP, these students meet with a principal, counselor, and parent, and go over what accommodations they are going to make for this student. A blanket policy for the entire state is not the answer, in my opinion. We need to focus on the needs of transgender students case-by-case! I suggest that before any vote or decision is made, you administer a survey that is sent to all parents in CCSD, as well as districts throughout this state. In order to take the survey, you must enter a student number. Let's find out what the parents of students think about the changes you are wanting to implement! I assure you, the majority are against creating a policy that places students of different biological sex in restrooms together, locker rooms together, or sleeping in the same hotel rooms together on school trips. I hope that you will take these comments and concerns into consideration when making your decision!

Dustin Davies

Abraham Lincoln is credited with the following: A young boy had a dog, and a man asked the boy, "How many legs does your dog have?" "Four." Replied the boy. The man continued, "If you call his tail a leg, how many legs does your dog have?" "Five." Said the boy. "No", said the man, "calling a tail a leg doesn't make it so." In my opinion, our society is like that little boy—calling a boy a girl b/c he identifies as such, doesn't make it so. Now, I understand that some people may not agree with my opinion, but, if those standing around the school board meetings waving signs that read, "Strength in diversity" are genuine, then they should embrace my opinion and hold it as valid as their own because that is diversity of thought. But, I believe those holding such signs are hypocrites—what the sign should read if it truly reflects their sentiment is, "strength when you believe exactly as I do." What happened to the world we used to live in where it was acceptable to say, 'we do not agree'? Can't we hold a common courtesy for all people, even if we do not agree with their opinions? The School board has a great task ahead of them. As the school board has voted to draft a school policy in regard to transgender students there is much to consider.

Let's analyze a few possibilities: 1. All students can use the restroom of their choice-biological gender means nothing. a. A male sexual predator conveniently "identifies" as a female and follows a female into the restroom and overpowers her and commits sexual assault. b. A transgender girl (biological male) enters a women's restroom and sees a young girl washing her clothes in the sink due to a mishap with her period—only adding to embarrassment of the girl. c. A transgender girl (biological male) is ushered into the girls' locker room to change for PE and the other girls have to change in front of him/her against their will. d. A transgender boy (biological female) enters a boys' restroom and is confronted by other boys who are bigger and stronger and don't want him/her in there because they feel their right to privacy has been violated. Hopefully bravado doesn't get the better of them and they lash out. None of these scenarios are good and are only the tip of the iceberg of possible bad outcomes with a total open door policy as it were. 2. Students must use the restroom of their biological sex. a. Transgender students are offended and threaten legal action against the district. b. Non trans students still maintain their right to privacy—especially in a locker room scenario. c. Transgender students don't get their way, can't take no for an answer and continue to plague the school board with requests/complaints. 3. Schools must assign one or more restrooms to be gender neutral restrooms—transgender students are instructed to use these facilities. a. Non-transgender students continue to enjoy their right to privacy. b. Transgender students have a safe place to use the facilities. c. Some transgender students are offended because they view this solution as "separate but equal". These are only three possible bathroom policies, and I'm sure creative people can come up with more, but these do address real considerations that need to be accounted for. The reality is NO policy will alter human behavior. That is not how we humans work.

For example, do you speed? Have you ever? These are the policies (or laws) by which we are supposedly governed, but people only follow those laws/policies when they want to. Yes, when they are caught speeding, sometimes they are issued a ticket but does it stop the speeding? The second issue I wish to address is with board member Deana Wright specifically. In a recent board meeting, she chose to read a letter written by Dan Reynolds from Imagine Dragons and made sure we all knew copies would be distributed. Does she believe his opinion is any more valid than anyone else's? Is he an expert? Or did Ms. Wright just want to promote his opinion because he is famous? It seems very gullible and naïve on the one hand or extremely manipulative on the other. It was very telling of her priorities and personality. Does she also gather her "facts" about the social sciences from the Hollywood tabloid magazines? The school board, YOU—members of the school board, will need to be very cautious in drafting the language of such a divisive policy. How will you be fair and unbiased? Can you, do it? What about this scenario? A transgender girl (biological male) wants to participate in sports with the women's teams.

Doesn't a biological male have an advantage over his female peers, especially in individual sports like track and field or wrestling? Is that fair? If students are allowed to play sports based on the sex they identify with, could that policy ever be taken advantage of? As you move forward with drafting a policy regarding transgender students, I think it's imperative to have equal representation at the table. Will people of faith have their voices heard? Or, will the ACLU be funding this policy? Will common sense have any room in the discussion or will this be a political move to say what you *think* people want to hear to further your own political aspirations? It's

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clear that compromise will be necessary. I pray the compromise isn't so one sided that it proves an embarrassment in years to come. Social issues have clearly changed in the last 50, 25, and even 10 years. Has right and wrong changed? Are you seeking truth as you draft this policy or merely political correctness? It seems you have your work cut out for you and if you bend to the time constraints that public pressure will surely place on you, will you get it done FAST? Or will you get it done, RIGHT? All of us, especially our kids will be paying the price for this if you don't succeed in getting it RIGHT.

Kristina Perry

Here are my suggestions for the Gender diverse policy for NV. As to graduation robes, they should all be the same color, that of the school. As to bathrooms; each hallway should have one or more individual restrooms like the handicapped or family restrooms at the airport. Any one can use it and no one can be victimized as they would presumably lock the door during use. As to locker rooms the same thing for changing rooms; not with curtains but with doors, like McDonalds has in their rest rooms for women. As to overnight trips; these should be discontinued as not necessary for high school learning. I'm sure well educated people like yourselves should be able to find common sense alternatives to protect all students while they take care of their personal needs. As to what to call them. Call them what ever they say their name is. Please, get this done.

Susan I Hoenninger, resident of Henderson

Please read these case facts below before making a decision! Do you want this happening to our children? Thank you for your time, Pat Subject: 5 Times 'Transgender' Men Abused Women And Children In Bathrooms | Daily Wire Hi Danny! I sent these facts to Victor Joecks of the Review Journal in hopes he might persuade the CCSD to make the right decision but don't know if he did, maybe you could? Please! Thanks, <https://www.dailywire.com/news/5190/5-times-transgender-men-abused-women-and-children-amanda-prestigiacomio> **Pat**

To those voting on the transgender policy language TODAY, I am a parent of 2 Nevada students and I wanted to share with you some problems that I have with the transgender policy you are voting on today, in hopes that you will revise the language. I will not appreciate gender theory being taught in the classroom, especially without parental notification. I do not agree with it. I actively teach the opposite to my children at home. I'm not saying you have to support me, but teaching the opposite to my children is wrong. It is not accepted universally as fact and it's not right to this to children. Ideally, please do not allow gender theory to be taught in the classroom. At a minimum, please require parental notification. It's upsetting to me that this policy may require students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, especially without parental notification. I have to be notified if my child sustains a head injury but not if they will be REQUIRED to room with a student of the opposite biological sex? This is utter disregard for my wishes for privacy for my children. It bothers me greatly and I'm dismayed by it. Please change it. There will be many students and their parents who won't care whether they room with someone of the opposite biological sex, so parental consent is a simple common-sense answer! On the topic of unrestricted bathroom access, WHY is a transgender student's preference and comfort above my own child's right to privacy? At the expense of anyone not comfortable with their presence in an intimate space, these children are being treated differently and it's unfair to the others. I think there is another solution. I can tell you ALL about it if you care enough to ask for a parents opinion. Lastly, please prioritize the concerns of PARENTS over community members. They don't have as personal of a stake in what happens in schools. Parental support is the backbone of educational success. It's wrong to disregard their preferences. You can't afford to alienate parents. Please contact me if you would like to discuss these. It's true that I'll give you an earful, but the point is that these are MY CHILDREN we are talking about and I CARE what happens to them.

Erin Frehner 408-689-1559

I am writing to voice my concern regarding the Nevada Department of Education meeting being held today, Friday, March 30, 2018, at 11:00 AM, and the gender diverse policy being discussed and potentially voted on during said meeting. The fact that this meeting was scheduled during what is Spring Break for over 80% of Nevada's student population and on Good Friday which is a religious holiday observed by many families is questionable at best and intentional at worst. All Nevada families should have the opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns regarding the topic matter being discussed. Personally, I firmly believe the mandate as currently written goes far beyond the scope of the law that was passed last summer and infringes on the rights of parents to educate their own children on matters of gender and sexuality. For the record, as a parent of school age students in Nevada who I believe would be negatively affected by this policy, I strongly oppose this meeting being held today and the mandate that is being discussed. Concerned Parent,

Mael Glennon

I am writing in support of the adoption of Proposed Amendments to R099-17, NAC Chapter 388 which prescribes a policy for use by all school districts and public schools and charter schools to provide a safe and respectful learning environment. The Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN) is a coalition of 30+ member groups throughout Nevada, spanning from Reno, Carson City, and Las Vegas with the goal of creating a more fair and just Nevada that puts people and Planet first. We were supporters of SB 225 during the 2017 legislative session and believe that its successful implementation is an important step in creating safe schools for all

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students. Understanding and respecting diversity is essential for ending bullying. We all have the goal that school is a safe environment for students, yet often staff lack the tools to meet the needs of all students. The proposed amendments will help create a learning environment that is safe and supportive for gender diverse students and help all students acknowledge that our differences make us stronger.

Christine Saunders, MSW (*she/her/hers*) **Organizing Director**, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada **mobile:** (503)413-0130 **office:** (775)348-7557 **address:** 203 South Arlington Avenue Reno, Nevada 89501

I am a parent of three children. My family resides in Las Vegas. I am intensely opposed to the Nevada Department of Education adopting policy that: 1) Allow schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. 2) Allow students who identify with the opposite biological gender access to intimate spaces at school such as bathrooms and locker rooms. 3) Allow students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. This is an irresponsible policy and does not have the safety of all children being considered. I understand the need to prevent actual bullying; however, all students should feel safe. The following is my contact information:

Amanda Quist, [Las Vegas, Nevada 89143](#)

As a Nevada parent of school-age children I insist that "any policy adopted by the state or local level must include a provision that gender ideology will not be part of any curriculum in any school! Affirming individual lifestyle choices in regular classes is beyond the scope of educating children on core subjects, contradicts science, violates free speech, and contradicts deeply held beliefs." Anti-bullying laws are already in place and we should focus on maintaining those. Any thing behind this would be indoctrination.

Lindsey Rosier

I would like to take this opportunity and thank you for taking the time and listen to very concerned parents about SB 225. I am the father of three girls who attend public school and the oldest about to enter high school. I strongly disagree with SB225 and I feel it puts my children in harms way. Our jobs as parents are to protect our children against anything that can cause them harm and we teach them to treat others with kindness and respect, but it does not mean we agree with their choices.

We are shocked that the public input meeting is moving forward to discuss and possibly take action on proposed language for Senate Bill 225, in spite of outcry from parents in Nevada. (And scheduled during spring break for many of the students as well as on the religious holiday of Good Friday.) We are also very concerned about the following: We are concerned that the proposed changes would infringe on the reasonable right to privacy in intimate spaces at school as it will allow unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender. We are also concerned that it could require our child as well as other students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. Also, concerning is that it could allow schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. We ask that you listen to the parents of the students in Nevada as you visit these proposed changes. We also ask that you schedule meetings to discuss proposed changes at times when it would be reasonable that the parents could attend and let their voices be heard.

Matt and Jonna Mortensen

Please do not pass this ! I have too many questions. One of them is if that boy who want use girl bathroom and he dress as girl have a penis or vagina? If the penis is present I don't think it's safe and appropriate for my girl to see that boy /girl in bathroom. Parents if transgender or confused / mentally ill children should have responsibilities explain them. Their children have problems with health their have mental counseling. So after that boy or girl going to the bathroom and surprise or confuse my child I need to take for evaluation? If parent of transgender child or school going to pay for counseling? I don't want to confuse my child and bring to mental

provider for evaluation. It definitely will affect my child believes, mental health and safely. I am not against transgender or gay or lesbian. They can dress, whatever they want to, not in my school, not around my child. So transgender or gay or lesbian child, parents' responsibilities to explain their child to go still boys or girls bathroom because that's what is needed to do to respect others because the penis and vagina is identity a gender. Let's those parents work with mental providers and their children. Please stop this law! I can't make it for meeting I'm at work. This law will be abused religion family and kids! Please help to stop! My family and all my friends will be preying !

Irinka

As a concerned parent of 4 children in the Clark county school district, I would like to express my opinion on the gender diverse policy changes. Though I agree that transgender students need to have policies in place to protect them from bullying and help them feel safe at school, these policies should not impact the safety and privacy of other students. Policies that allow for students to use the bathroom or locker room which they identify with and/or allow students of different genders to room together on school overnight trips should not be allowed. Other accommodations should be made for those students who may not feel comfortable using their

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biological gender's bathroom or locker room, but allowing a student who has the biological parts of a male but identifies as a female to dress in front of girls in a girl's locker room is completely inappropriate and a violation of the privacy of those girls. Also, a policy that allows schools to teach that gender is fluid without parent permission or forces schools to take out all references to gender (boys and girls) in an effort to not segregate should not be passed. Gender fluidity is a belief held by some, but should be left up to each student's family to teach their child their beliefs about gender. It certainly should not be taught as fact and should be handled carefully in a similar manner to sex education or talking about religious beliefs. The issues brought up about gender diversity and the struggles faced by transgender students should be addressed, but not at the expense of the rights to safety and privacy of the majority of students or the expense of parent's and family's rights to teach their children their beliefs on these sensitive issues. As a parent, I have felt this issue has been handled by the school districts in a very one-sided manner, aiming to accommodate transgender students without thought to the rights of other students. My hope is that policies can be found that will protect the rights, safety, beliefs and needs of all students and parents.

Crystal Smith

I am a passionate grandmother of two current students in the Nevada public schools system. My daughter and I have been following your development of a policy for transgender students. We feel that you are listening more to community members than you are to parents of actual students who will have the most at stake in their personal lives concerning your new policy!! I heartily disagree with these facets of your considered policy: 1 – Allowing unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender. This is putting the desires of one student ahead of the potential physical, emotional, or psychological abuse of many innocent students! 2 – Requiring students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. This is clearly overstepping the prerogative that should be given to parents. They have the legal obligation to protect all aspects of their children's lives, and they certainly deserve to be notified of any rooming arrangements on a school-sponsored trip!! 3 – Allowing schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. Again, this is clearly overstepping the bounds of what should be a parents' prerogative. Families have the right to choose which theories or bodies of knowledge they want imparted to their young students. The schools or school boards or state policies have no right to intervene in this most important freedom!! Thank you for your consideration,

Rauna Mortensen

I am a parent of four CCSD students, all daughters. My husband and I are understandably very concerned where gender neutral issues come into play. My concern is primarily that we will have predators taking advantage of situations that allow all genders to come-mingle in bathrooms and on overnight school field trips. It is very hard to determine who is and who is not genuinely dealing with these issues, and if there is no definition between who is allowed to be in intimate areas with my daughters, then there is no protection for them from boys or men who wish to take advantage of such situations. I am frankly appalled that any such language would potentially allow for opportunistic males to be allowed a right to impose themselves on girls in this way. Our daughters need to be protected while they are away from us, not exposed to the dangers of predatory males. Thank you,

Brittany Timko Clinical Supervisor, Surgical Services Spring Valley Hospital

I wish to voice the following objections and comments about these policies to be adopted: Allow unrestricted access to students who identify with the opposite biological gender, infringing on reasonable right to privacy in intimate spaces at school. This appears to be against the constitutional right to privacy and will invite lawsuits which the state can ill afford. Require students to room with another student of the opposite biological sex on overnight field trips, without parental notification. Again, this is against a constitutional right to privacy in one's person and will invite lawsuits. The chance for RAPE are dramatically increased with this policy and will also invite lawsuits. Allow schools to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. "Gender theory" is a political/academic THEORY not accepted by qualified, peer reviewed science or a majority of the state population and should not be adopted as "policy" until the science has clarified the validity of such theory.

David A Edwards, MD, Reno, NV 89519

I am Lindsey Dalley and serve on our Community Education Advisory Board for over ten years. I am also a member of Mack Lyon Middle School School Organization Team. There are three parts to my comments: First point: The magnitude of parents objecting to this policy. I attended the majority of these CCSD public meetings that was a serragate discussion on this issue. At each meeting, parents who objected to a similar proposed policy ranged from 2/3 to 3/4 of those in record attendance. • The minority of those supporting this gender diverse policy identified themselves as parents. Second: How this policy undermines the Dept. of Education's own quest to improve our schools through the AB469 reorganization. • These Dept. of Ed. regulations don't allow SOTs and school principals the flexibility within their schools to protect all students, but rather the regulations prioritizes a specific demographic. • AB469 formed SOTs to promote local site based decision-making and address individual students needs. These proposed regulations do the opposite. They aggressively micro manage and overreach from the top down which creates damaging rigidity, the exact opposite of what the AB 469 reorganization was suppose to accomplish. • These proposed regulations reflect NO parental involvement in their formulation to get parents involved at the school level, a hallmark in the reorganization purpose. When the Dept. of Education crafted these regulations where were the parental stake holders? There was only generic public input.

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Only non-parent special interests were consulted. This needs correcting. Third and finally: How special interests hijacked well intentioned legislation and how this regulation will bully and destroy our children's learning environment by the very law that was passed to protect it. • I quote from SB225 Sec. 6 Subsection 6a that tells us schools in this State should provide "a safe and respectful learning environment in which persons of differing beliefs, races, colors, national origins, ancestries, religions, gender identities or expressions, sexual orientations, physical or mental disabilities, sexes or any other distinguishing characteristics or backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential;" • This is another way of saying bullying is not allowed against any of at least these 13 attributes that may exist within a student population. • "Gender identities or expressions" is only 1 out of the 13 attributes defined by SB 225, yet the regulations are consumed with protecting gender diverse attributes to the detriment of the remaining 12. This occurs in Sec. 3 Subsection 2 c-m. • These proposed regulations are 180 degrees out of phase. They will destroy personal privacy, cultural, and safety protections for literally 99.9% of students with the 12 listed attributes—and prioritize gender diverse expression which occurs in less than (point).1% of the CCSD student body. • This violates the spirit of SB 225 because it intimidates and destroys the remaining 12 cultural attributes, listed for protection, as it prioritizes diverse gender behavior.

This is the essence of bullying. • The Dept. of Education needs to invite parents representing these remaining 12 attributes to participate in crafting reasonable regulations so gender diversity doesn't unfairly dominate the regulations and destroy other cultural values. • These propose regulations DO NOT safeguard the majority interest of the student body while ensuring protections for the individual student. To quote the closing sentence from our Middle School Organization Team letter sent to the CCSD Trustees: "We strongly hold that protection of a portion of the student body should not weaken the protections of the remaining student population." • These regulations bully parents and their children by creating a zero sum game that pits one child over another where some children have to lose. Comply with SB 225 legislative intent and protect all children and all cultures. • Don't play favorites. Revise the regulations with parental involvement.

Lindsey Dalley

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed transgender policy. We currently have an anti bullying policy that is meant to protect every single child, including our gender diverse students. Our efforts should be focused on perfecting and enforcing the policy that already exists. I understand that principals and teachers need guidelines in reference to transgender students. And I am in support of this. But I am vehemently opposed to a policy that allows the school to teach gender theory in the classroom without parental permission. Just as church and religion no longer have a place in schools, this ideology has no place in our children's educations. I am also vehemently opposed to the current bathroom and locker room policy. This infringes on every student's reasonable right to privacy. In a #metoo society, how can we be so negligent or naive to assume that every child will be safe in the bathroom and locker room? I am concerned that there are people who are not transgender who will take advantage of this bathroom and locker room policy. We need to come up with better solutions that protect the rights of our trans and non trans students. Our children are our most vulnerable population. As a mother, my purpose is to defend and protect the rights of every child. Unfortunately, this policy is not about equal rights for everyone. It is about special rights for one group, at the expense of everyone else's rights. While I feel a deep sense of empathy for what must be a difficult situation for transgender people, the reality is that a policy that forces children to compromise their spaces in order to accommodate the demands of others, is abuse. Please, for the sake of our children and society, listen to the parents, include the parents in finding better solutions than this proposed policy. Let's work together and be creative to find answers that ensure the safety and bodily privacy for everyone. Sincerely,

Rebecca Rasmussen

I am a third generation citizen of Nevada raising a family (three children) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Like many parents in Nevada, I have nothing but love and respect for children struggling with their gender identity. Many of them carry heavy burdens, and I wish that those burdens will be lifted. Nevertheless, I oppose adopting any Nevada law or policy on this topic that will merely exchange the discomfort of one student for that of another. On a very practical level biological sex is not easily overlooked. In most instances, it is an open and obvious classification, subject to additional protection. Our schools and workplaces generally function with greater efficiency and less general discomfort or unease when we can rely on the stability of biological sex in organizing facility usage. Some children will be uncomfortable sharing a bathroom, locker room, shower, or over-night sleeping quarter with an individual of a different biological sex and anatomy. As a community, we cannot discount those feelings--there is no balancing test to successfully determine which of those two directly competing feelings of discomfort is of greater worth--each individual is on a path to sociability and each deserves to be treated with respect and love. Newly proposed laws and policies in Nevada should ensure that *all children*, not only LGBTQ children, benefit from their enactment. And, not only students, but their parents, will feel discomforted and anxious if Nevada disorganizes bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, or over-night sleeping quarters--allowing the mixing of biological sexes. Thus, the portion of our community that would become concerned with abuse by abusers, discomfort, embarrassment, and/or exploitation under a new policy or statute is much larger than the portion currently complaining of inadequate respect. A federal court in the 2016 case *Texas v. U.S.* 201 F.Supp. 3d 810, 832 (N.D. Tex. 2016) has upheld the congressional intent of Title IX, and determined that Title IX "specifically permits educational institutions to provide separate toilets, locker rooms, and showers based on sex, provided that the separate facilities are comparable." That court further held that other provisions in Title IX likewise permit educational institutions to separate students on the basis of sex [nor gender]. The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed an appeal on that case. The American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5) defines

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"gender dysphoria" as a diagnosis of a mental disorder lasting at least six months (but it could last less time that that--in which case it would not reach the level of a mental disorder).

See Ranna Parekh, M.D., M.P.H., "What Is Gender Dysphoria?" American Psychiatric Association (Feb. 2016) (available at <https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/gender-dysphoria/what-is-gender-dysphoria>). Nevada's should not discount that gender fluidity means that one's sexuality or gender may change (and re-change), without predictable or measurable timelines. In contrast, one's biological sex is predictable and a much more reliable basis for organizing bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, over-night sleeping quarters, etc. Some proponents of removing the existing distinctions based on biological sex point to anti-discrimination laws for various classifications as a basis for justifying their position. Those well-meaning people, I find, actively *use comparisons* to justify *banning distinctions*. And, in their effort to do good and end discrimination, they often elevate the feelings of one class of persons (usually a minority) above that of another. In so doing, they fail to punish intentionally bad behavior by imposing a one-size-fits-all "higher" standard, which unnecessarily makes some children and parents uncomfortable. For example, Nevada schools are not qualified nor equipped to aid children in any determination of their individual gender identify or sexuality--these are complex and potentially lifelong matters, for which professional quality counseling or other similar assistance should be sought. Nevada government is not expert in this field nor could it adequately maintain any expertise in this field. Nevada should not adopt a one-size-fits-all policy to sustain individual needs on matters of gender identity or sexuality. Above all, I firmly believe that Nevada educators need the involvement of Nevada parents and that government relationships with a student should never be elevated to a position above family relationships in terms of privacy matters.

Accordingly, Nevada should not adopt any statute or policy that would allow a school to transition a child's gender identity or sexuality without the direct involvement and knowledge of that child's parents/guardians. These are very complex, individual, and delicate matters. The bottom line is that (1) Nevada should not disorganize our bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, or over-night sleeping quarters. Children who feel they should not use the same facilities as children of their same biological sex, should be permitted to use the nurse's bathroom or a similar small scale third facility, (2) Nevada should not adopt curriculum encouraging transitioning of gender or sexuality, and instead, it should require children seeking recognition for a transition to meet with a qualified professional on multiple occasions and provide documentation regarding the same in addition to a request executed by both of that child's parents/guardians, and (3) Parents/guardians of any child seeking recognition of a transition from one gender identity to another should always be informed of such a request to enable them to nurture their child. **Joe Meservy**

I am a parent to 4 children who all attend CCSD schools in Moapa Valley. It has been an on going battle with the school district fighting against this transgender policy. We as parents feel it is wrong to pass as a policy, it should have been passed as guidelines. I feel that children will abuse these rules, and then my child will no longer be safe at school, in the bathrooms, in the locker rooms, or on school field trips, or on school over-night trips, or sports trips. I feel it is wrong on all levels. I think that CCSD had crossed the lines with these policies. Now it is in your hands to protect our children. Please don't ignore the parents rights. Parents are speaking out, we care about our children, and we care about their safety. We also care about the transgender children too. There is just a 1% of them to the 99% of the original male, female children. Pass a bill that allows schools to make special bathrooms, and locker rooms specifically for them. Don't put our children in harms danger, or them in danger as well.

Monica Dominguez

Without getting into much detail I am oppose to the proposed changes for transgender students in schools. PLEASE VOTE NO. I cannot begin to understand how a school which is designed to educate our youth could possibly take a stance that there may be more than 2 genders or how a girl can be a boy or vise versa. Teach reading righting and arithmetic and leave the personal feelings to us parents. It's very simple really. Despite how you feel if you have a penis go to the boys room if you have a vagina go to the girls. Doing anything other then that would be the same as granting a pedophile access to the kids bathroom because that's how they feel. Again please Do not pass this!

Alan Wolfley

I am writing this letter in opposition of Senate Bill 225. I am a parent of five children who have or are attending clark county schools. When my husband and I started our family 20 years ago we were excited for them to grow up and learn in the same schools we attended and graduated from. We hoped they would have great experiences and feel safe and welcome in those schools like we did. Never did we think we would have to fight against things we are fighting against now. The idea of you pushing a policy that you think will help 1-2% of Nevada students while forgetting about the other 98%, and their parents who are against it, is very frustrating. This Senate Bill will take away parents rights from having a say in their children's lives when it comes to gender and that is wrong. The idea of students being able to choose which bathroom and locker room they want to use puts all students in danger. I am strongly opposed to any of my children being taught in a public school that gender is a choice. I am strongly opposed to my child being punished for not learning new pronouns and using them incorrectly. I am strongly opposed to students who identify to a gender that is not their biological gender, being able to play sports with the opposite sex. I am strongly opposed with my daughters having to room with a boy who identifies as a girl on any school trip. I don't understand how anyone can think this is a good idea!!!! My children are taught to be kind to others. Everyone! Even if they are different! I can not in any way support this Senate Bill. Make guidelines for principles. Let the parents be involved in this process! Please protect ALL of our students.**Leslie May**, Parent

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First and foremost I want to say thank you to all who are taking the concerns that we have for our children seriously. I am opposed to this transgender regulation policy. There are personal reasons for each child to feel insecure or to feel judged or to feel separated from the group and I know that all of this can be covered under an anti-bullying policy. If you feel it can't you're going to have groups upon groups upon groups coming to you for our individual child's needs. I would urge you to focus on the need in regards to our rank in education. Out of 50 states we are 51st if including the District of Columbia! Here is a link to the article <https://www.reviewjournal.com/news/education/nevada-ranks-last-in-us-for-education-but-officials-upbeat/>

I'm not sure how you can feel upbeat about being last when it comes to our children's education. We need to focus on the education down falls. The deaf and hard of hearing program that they have in place in Las Vegas couldn't even help my daughter. We had to move out of state to get her the education that she needed to be able to catch her up to grade level. We are now back in CCSD. If CCSD feel they need to have some more policies put in place they should stress the QUALITY of our children's education, and not personal opinions.

Taci May

This new wording allegedly protecting a small fraction of students at the cost of the majority is affront to parents. You are not delegated parental responsibility! How dare you pass off indoctrination as education. **klm89533** klm89533@aol.com As a resident of the state of Nevada and mother of 7, I am so upset! Why is it even being considered to let a boy into my girls locker room or bathroom Or vice versa? Why are my children's and others safety and privacy not a concern? I feel like the loud minority's voice is the one being listened to. As a parent I am angry that I have to fight to first be in control of my child's sex education and now to protect them from people who would take advantage of a broken system. It is disturbing and frustrating. If Nevada is going to make any changes I hope it is to protect its students! Find another solution. Build a separate gender diverse locker room or bathroom but please protect the other students! Do not vote for the proposed mandate! Protect parents rights to raise their children and trust the programs you already have in place to take care of the problems that arise! Please. Please, please protect my rights as a parents and my children's right as students to privacy and safety!

Bonnie Walker

Restore American Glory » After Significant Study, Pentagon Agrees: No Transgender Military Service. Here is more info, if our Military does not want it why should we impose this on our children? Use your heads!!! Thank you again for your time to consider the right decision.

<http://www.restoreamericanglory.com/breaking-news/after-significant-study-pentagon-agrees-no-transgender-military-service/>

Patricia pepi4health@cox.net

I would like to add my comments (again) to this debate. First of all, it is beyond belief that the Department of Education would really schedule a meeting during spring break and then claim they didn't know about Spring Break. Whose agenda is this pushing?! It seems quite clear that it isn't at all concerned about the huge majority of parents of children that this language will affect, most of whom are vacationing out of town. The proposed language which seems to allow unrestricted bathroom, overnight field trip and locker room access to any student that claims or identifies with an opposite gender. Clearly this takes away rights of privacy from all other students. If we are really trying to protect the needs of those few that identify with opposite biological gender, lets make one bathroom or area open to all and still have a men's and women's bathroom available. That still allows those that DO identify with their biological gender to have privacy. Many of CCSD students have been sexually abused by someone of the opposite sex. Do they deserve any kind of protection or should everyone just be thrown in the mix? As a parent, I feel that my voice and opinions at countless meetings have been completely ignored. **Leslie Thomas**, CCSD parent

Parents voices matter. Please listen to the voices of parents who are the most involved In their children's lives. The proposed changes will be detrimental to the majority of students. We all need to make sure children are safe and taken care of in school, however, transgender in children is still being understood and studied. The very small minority should not change policy for the majority. Why is it logical to change policies so drastically for life as it has been since long before our short time on earth. Please do keep Nevada logical while compassionate. Compassionate with understanding and tolerance. A transgender boy is not a girls and vice versa, while there are needs to be met this doesn't change life in general. School needs to be a place of education NOT social confusion.

Kathy Watkins

We recently moved here in November and I'm amazed at how difficult it is for "parents" to be involved. I beg you! Please listen to the parents of these kids. Random people from the community who simply have a strong opinion on this issue should NOT have a say in what happens within my child's school. Parents, teachers, and principles are the only ones who really know what is going on. Please do not take them out of the equation! A lot of parents aren't even aware of what is going on simply because they are at home- busy being parents! Whereas those who are in favor LIVE for this. Please do not be swayed by all those trying to push this forward. I have 3 children within Clark County and I should have a say. Leave the power to those who are involved with the kids on a day to day basis and know case by case how to handle each situation. This is not a one size fits all scenario. Don't act out of fear! Do what you know is right-- and what is right for ALL children. Not just one group. **Amy Dalley**

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I am the aunt of two students in your district. I am also an elementary teacher and feel that the issues of transgender people need to be handled carefully. I have taught first grade, and it is not uncommon for kindergarten and first graders to want to explore and see the bodies of other students. I have had to tell parents that a student chose to strip down in the bathroom. Another time, two boys were exploring and touched their penises together. Children that young, all children whose brains are still developing, need to be taught according to the values and beliefs held by their parents. The policies you are putting into place place them in situations that will infringe on their right to privacy. Because of their curious nature's, when a child is using the restroom that has the body parts of the opposite sex, children may begin to see and experience things that parents would want to shield them from, until they have the maturity level and understanding to be able to handle such situations. Parents also need to be informed on what will be taught in schools in regards to gender issues. Parents in my district are informed about "Growth and development" talks given to students in the upper elementary years. It doesn't seem too much to let parents decide for themselves if they would like that type of learning to happen for their child I school, or if they would like to withdraw them from school that day. Please know what ALL parents have to say about the rights of their children in your district. I plead with you to measure all sides. I feel strongly the policies proposed are a detriment to young and developing minds and infringe of the privacy and rights of children and their families. I know as a teacher that for a school to thrive and to have good communication and working relationships with the parents of their students, there has to be trust. You, by voting in these policies will break that trust with many families currently there and many that will move to the district. I urge you to consider them and the future of your schools. Sincerely

Adrienne Mortensen

I have 3 kids that presently go to CCSD. Please do not make a transgender policy that has been pushed by a special interest group! They claim they need this policy because they are killing themselves. Making a specific policy just for transgender kids is not going to keep them from committing suicide! Question....what about all the other kids who are committing suicide because they don't feel excepted or are being bullied? Oh that's right, there is any anti bullying policy already set in place for them! Maybe you need to figure out how to make that policy more effective if kids are really committing suicide no matter the reason! All this is doing is showing you are favoring a certain suicidal group of kids over another! Please tell me how is this equal? Also, how is a policy going to help these transgender kids feel better about themselves and feel more accepted? That is only something they can do for themselves... with the help of some sort of a psychologist, but only with the approval of a parent, of course. Acceptance of your own self! You can change whatever you want on the outside, but if you can't accept who you are on the inside, you can never be truly happy. It goes with everyone! My husband was paralyzed 5 years ago in an accident, obviously not by his choice. No matter what I say to him, do for him, or even love him, he will NEVER be truly happy, and get rid of those feelings of being a worthless human being(along with his own suicidal thoughts) until he accepts that he is now a paraplegic! He is not pushing for a policy or a special law to be passed to help him feel better about himself!

He knows it will have to start with him and how he sees himself...he's just not the yet. Another question I have is who is going to make that judgment call of which child is ACTUALLY "feeling" they identify as the opposite sex they biologically are? You can't call out a boy who is abusing the system and "claiming" he identifies as a girl one day just so he can get into the girls locker room and check out girls as they change or shower or even go to the bathroom! That is "feelings" discrimination! There is no way to safely keep out perverts from the girls bathrooms or locker rooms! Bottom line.... if you have a penis you can only use the boys bathroom and locker room, and if you have a vagina you use the girls bathroom and locker room! That is how you can guarantee my children's safety and give them piece of mind at School in the bathrooms and locker rooms, instead of them stressing about who is traking advantage of an unnecessary policy! PLEASE! As a parent of present CCSD students, I beg you to NOT make a policy that not only is so unfair and completely bias, but can be very dangerous and cause some serious emotional and/or physical harm from those who WILL abuse this policy just because they can or just out of spite! **Tiffany Frederick**

I attended the event in Carson City. There was standing room only. Not only did the meeting start late, but the leader didn't gave any instructions on how the meeting would be conducted. Las Vegas attendees were given so much time that we felt the othe... Thanks for your time.

Judy Engman, Reno. NV

I attended the public meeting on Friday, March 30, 2018 in Las Vegas, NV for the Protection of the Transgendered student in the State of Nevada which I am in favor of and totally support .Please accept my letter to you in a PDF format and ADD it to the public record for all to read. The meeting itself was highy organized and civilized and people showed respect for one another, an overall very good meeting. Thank you for showing hospitality to all participants.

TRANSGENDERED "PROTECTION" is a MUST March 31, 2018 To: State Nevada Department of Education Steve Canavero, PH.D, Superintendent of Public Instruction Executive Team From: James Maltese - GayDefenseShield.com Subject: Protection for the Transgendered Students of Clark County School District. I write to you to share my findings after conducting my Bible due diligence and being a Board Member and a Discipleship Leader at a gay church called Long Island Community Fellowship, which I had to resign my positions as a Board member and discipleship leader. This is what I found: Christian Leaders have a long history of NOT wanting people to be PROTECTED in the streets and NOW schools. "That Protection for the Jews on the highways be

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revoked. For they have no right to be in the land, because they are not lords, nor officials.” “I [Luther] would like to assemble a cavalry against you [the Jews], because you will learn from this book what the Jews are and how they are to be treated and their activities not to be protected. For you should not and cannot protect them unless you want to be partners of their abominations.” Dr. Martin Luther, *The Jews And Their Lies* (York, SC: Liberty Bell Publication, reprinted 2004), page 39. “That you do not let them have protection safe-conduct, nor fellowship.” Dr. Martin Luther, *The Jews And Their Lies* (York, SC: Liberty Bell Publication, reprinted 2004), page 45. “We [Christians], however, should avoid strengthening them and disagreeing, also do not become partakers of their devilish raving and ranting by according them protection, meat, and drink, lodging and other neighborly kindness.” Dr. Martin Luther, *The Jews And Their Lies* (York, SC: Liberty Bell Publication, reprinted 2004), page 47-48.

Christian Leadership as Hypocrites “If the ten Commandments are not kept, what is the keeping of other commandments others than jugglery and trickery, yea, a real mockery in which God is treated like a fool?” Dr. Martin Luther, *The Jews And Their Lies* (York, SC: Liberty Bell Publication, reprinted 2004), page 18. In this modern Christian textbook that teaches about the Ten Commandments, Christian leaders DELETE the Second Commandment, MAKE-UP a Tenth Commandment. Then to violate the Ten Commandments even further, the Christian leadership CHANGE the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. Erwin Kurth, *Catechetical Helps, Revised and Expanded* (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1997) pages 18-79. Christianity Teaches Hatred: These Christian teachings from Dr. Martin Luther and the Vatican eventually was the ROOT CAUSE that caused the Jewish and Gay Holocaust of World War II. Jesus’ teaching about the Ten Commandments: “I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Anyone one who breaks one of the least of these commandant and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commandants will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” “For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses

that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5: 18-20 This is what the Bible say about the great LGBTQ community: Jesus States: Gay men are born gay! “For some are eunuchs [Gay Men] because they were born that way; others were made that way by men...” Mathew 19: 12 Note, before puberty, young straight boys who were handsome, very smart, not sickly were to be castrated to be more like gay men; who do not have sex with females. Then, these boys were to attend a 3 year eunuch training program. This was considered to be a great honor for the straight boys. God and Samuel pick a young gay boy, the most ruddy of brothers to eventually lead the Jew’s, his name is David and then eventually called King David. “So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power.” 1 Samuel 16: 13 David loves Jonathan, King Saul’s son. “Your father knows very well that I have found favor in your eyes...” 1 Samuel 20: 3 David’s love for Jonathan continues. “And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.” 1 Samuel 20:17 Here it comes the wedding vows? “Then they kiss each other and wept together – but David wept the most. Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.” 1 Samuel 20: 41-42 David laments after he learns that his man Jonathan is dead.

“Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of a woman.” 2 Samuel 1: 26 The Book of Isaiah speaks volumes: “For this is what the Lord says: To the eunuchs [gay men] who keep my Sabbath [Sabbath Saturday, not Sunday, the Lords Day], who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant [The Ten Commandments] to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters [Jewish folk]; I will give them an everlasting name that will not be cut off. Isaiah 56: 4-5 Leviticus: The below slide shows the reason why Leviticus used the word “abomination” meaning, lets not do this; we know my analysis to be 100% correct because Christian Bibles have changed the word “abomination” to the words “Detestable or Abhorrent.” This Bible abortionist act was necessary to train new generations to HATE the LGBTQ community. I personally use three different Bible for my analysis work. Some of my analysis may be new and or alien to you, but they factual from the Bible, a book from Dr. Martin Luther of the Christian Reformation and a Christian text book. I ask the State of Nevada to provide PROTECTION to the Transgendered students, provide PROTECTION to all students in the great LGBTQ community and provide PROTECTION for All Gods Children. In addition, please dismiss all Christian teachings of HATE against the LGBTQ community. Please feel free to contact me at james.A.Maltese@Gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.

James the Great - May my peace be with you

I attended the meeting in Carson City but was not called upon by 1:30 to make my statement. Following is my brief comment. I'm sure everyone wants bullying to stop but why do you want to abuse and contaminate the potential good in SB225 by hijacking and contaminating so controversial a subject as transgender identification. I am sorry that parents have to deal with this issue but it is they who are the parents. It is not the job of the educational system to accommodate every issue of every child in every circumstance. The regulations being line-itemed into SB225 are unconscionable: You are trying to accommodate over 100 gender identities when only 2 genders are manifest in biological appearance. There is absolutely no reason of any kind to put biological boys into the girls privacy areas regardless of what these biological boys may feel like on any given day... A small percent of people are trying to regulate the rights of everyone else. Bullying is universal. We don't need to change our privacy rules and policies to neutralize bullying. Return discipline to the classrooms and to the parents. Why are we being forced into the world of transgenders by discriminating against over 99% of the people, who will be forced into their world. The educational budget should be spent on education and not whether a child is mistakenly identified as a he or she. **Ellen M. Shaw**, Washoe County, Reno, NV.

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I attended the public hearing on Friday March 30th, but because of the timing of the meeting I had an infant, and two young children with me. I submitted my name to testify but was unable to do so because my children could not last. I arrived early to get a seat, the meeting started 30 minutes late, and then after staying for an additional 90 minutes I had to leave. As a parent I do not feel like I am being heard, which is frustrating as my children are the ones being affected by these policies. I am against the proposed regulations for the gender diverse policy. I want safety and protection for ALL children and these proposed regulations are serving one demographic at the expense of another. Please do not be so determined to address wrongful discrimination against one group of students that you create another victimized group. A state policy should address the needs of all students. We can create a better policy so that it is not a win/lose situation. There is common ground that can be found. Please don't recommend this policy as it stands, this is NOT common ground. In particular I am very concerned about the following language, "Classroom activities that are relevant and meaningful to and appropriate for pupils with diverse gender identities and expressions." This statement leaves an opening for gender theory to be taught in the classroom. We need to maintain common ground with all and keep to the subjects that we can all agree on and not teach one belief over another. Please confirm that this email has been received so that I can be assured that my comments are seen. Thank You!

Elizabeth Capson

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed policy changes about allowing trans students to choose the bathroom, hotel room, and locker room that most closely fits the way they identify. I do believe that all children should both feel and be kept safe while attending school. This includes all children. I do believe that the proposed changes will leave some children feeling uncomfortable changing, sleeping and using the bathroom at school. Further, I do think such modifications could yield lawsuits towards the district by family's who have children harmed by this change. It seems we are worried about a very small percentage of children, but not thinking of the consequences of this proposed change. If nobody can question the gender identity of these students wanting to use the opposite genders bathroom, boys and girls can roam freely back and forth, consensual and non consensual relations could occur on school property. This is not the answer to the problem. Additionally, meetings taking place on Spring break week and on Good Friday holy week, seem very much a way to get things passed without regard to public opinion, because the public is busy celebrating a holiday that is the most holy day on the Christian Calendar. Passover started on Friday too, and I really feel this was in bad taste to hold a meeting at this time. Please allow all people to be heard on this and stop being sneaky trying to pass this into law.

Kelly Peoples

March 30, 2018 Nevada State Board of Education and Superintendent Canavero, Public Hearing on Gender Diverse Policy We hope these facts and thoughts are helpful in your deliberations. The following begins with a quote which expresses our feelings and continues with notes that we thought may be helpful to you in this deliberation. They briefly address the following topics: 1. Responsibility to students 2. Success in dealing with Gender Dysphoria 3. Concerns about Suggestible Children 4. Thoughts on current State Department of Education Draft Policy or Recommendations 5. Concerns with suicide rates, comorbidities, mental and emotional needs, lessening of gender dysphoric condition, biology, etc. and policy 6. Transgender Theory 7. Suggestions on developing a policy "*People who experience gender dysphoria deserve to be treated with compassion, kindness and respect--just like everyone else. It is wrong to despise them, ridicule them, or disrespect them in other ways.*" Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University The following information comes from a combined effort of Justin P. Rowberry, M.D. and David R. Rowberry, Ph.D Each student The State of Nevada is responsible to do the following: Provide opportunities for a high quality education Keep each child safe from physical harm Enforce current anti-bullying laws and policies. Provide privacy within restrooms, locker rooms etc Create a policy that treats all students fairly and with respect How this issue has successfully been handled in the past "In weighing how best to accommodate the dignity, privacy and safety concerns of students who identify as transgender, while also respecting the dignity, privacy and safety concerns of other students, schools facing this issue were sensitive to the feelings of embarrassment and discomfort that students who identify as transgender might experience, were they to be required to share bathroom or locker rooms with persons of the same biological sex. But they recognized that students of the other biological sex also had important concerns. Schools found solutions that balanced these competing concerns and that were tailored to the age of their students, from kindergarten to graduate school. No one assumed that a one-size policy would fit every education institution. The solution that many schools settled upon was to give the student who identified as transgender limited access to other facilities-such as faculty bathrooms or locker rooms- or to provide single -occupancy restrooms for any student who did not feel comfortable using a multiple-occupancy facility. They found a way to accommodate both the student who identified as transgender and the rest of the students."(Ryan T Anderson)

From Dr. Justin Rowberry, MD (Developmental Pediatrician) Concern about suggestible children: "There are many children that I work with (especially children with autism, fetal alcohol syndrome, and intellectual disability) that are easily influenced when presented with new, different, or exciting ideas and are then excessively rigid in their thinking. These children are especially vulnerable to suggestion. Promoting the ideas at the core of transgender theory in a classroom setting increases the chance that many children without true gender dysphoria falsely identify as the opposite gender (this likely accounts for some of the incredibly high increase in rates of reported gender dysphoria in the areas where it is taught in school). This takes away resources from children with true gender dysphoria and becomes confusing and problematic for the suggestible children.

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Refraining from teaching transgender theory in the classroom in no way precludes accommodations from being given to those who are transitioning or have transitioned.”

From Dr. David Rowberry Thoughts on the current recommendations from the Nevada Department of Education, Where similar recommendations been implemented, they have not reduced the overall mental and emotional conditions, self-harm or suicide rates among transgender students. They have raised other problems and some have indicated the suicide rate has even been heightened. These recommendations reflect a political agenda that has been used in other places to forward a radical agenda without significantly assisting the students. A number of like recommendations that were proposed by the Delaware State Department of Education are in a legal dispute currently. Fourteen state legislators and a large number of parents, many self-identified liberals, are behind this lawsuit. Minnesota is also having great difficulties. These recommendations strongly resemble those created and funded by the Human Rights Council, ACLU and other organizations for political power, not to meet the needs of our state. These recommendations cater to one group of students at the expense of the large majority of students. Parental concerns are given practically no consideration. Some even advocate withholding critical information from parents.

From Dr. Justin Rowberry When considering Nevada State Department of Education actions, it is important to keep in mind the following concerning those who experience gender dysphoria, although only numbers 7 and 11 are directly under **the school's** purview, Mental and emotional therapy is a need for children with gender dysphoria. DSM 5 (pages 458-459) lists the following comorbidities found in transgender students: anxiety, disruptive and impulse control, depression, autism; when these comorbidities are appropriately treated often the gender dysphoria decreases. Many studies would add Bipolar to the list. The vast majority of children with gender dysphoria, 80 to 90 %, naturally grow out of it by late adolescence if they are not encouraged to transition and are not given puberty blockers. People with gender dysphoria are significantly higher risk of attempting suicide (40% overall) The risk remains high (30% overall) despite transitioning and low-risk situation: family acceptance, graduate studies, lack of discrimination. The high rate of suicide attempts, despite transitioning, is often not considered and leads to inadequate care as transitioning is incorrectly assumed by some to alleviate all symptoms It is not ethical to keep the presence of a condition that predisposes to suicidality in a minor from that minor's parents. In doing so the school takes on liability and worse, possibly keeping a child from receiving additional support that could be life-saving. Gender Dysphoria is an emotional/mental condition. The question needs to be asked, why is a student experiencing gender dysphoria. Biology cannot be changed.

From Dr, Justin Rowberry, MD “Transgender Theory: Transgender Theory is a highly controversial, highly complex, and highly nuanced topic that is both supported and refuted by the opinion of many experts but lacks empirical evidence. It directly contradicts teachings in many major religions (Christian, Jewish, Muslim), but at the same time is highly celebrated as truth by the LGBTQ community. As it is such a controversial and divisive issue, transgender theory should not be taught in school. However, this in no way precludes appropriate accommodations from being given to those who believe in transgender theory or are transitioning themselves. Should The State of Nevada Department of Education decide to teach transgender theory in the classroom, it would undoubtedly result in an increased wedge of distrust between the state and school districts and many parents. This would also lead to the removal of a significant portion of students and highly engaged families from the school district” Students and Parents. Parents and family are the most important people in a student's life and have ultimate responsibility for the student's welfare. The State of Nevada Department of Education and the local school districts are tools for parents to use in educating their children. The Department of Education is accountable to the parents and families of the local Districts and to the State of Nevada. The State of Nevada is responsible to the citizens of Nevada, many of whom are students, their immediate and extended families. When Patrons can come together in a setting, such as a neighborhood school and work out concerns, good things happen. When the State Board of Education and/or local District Board, or their staffs pit one group against another, fear, anger and difficulties are the result. We understand that SB 225 indicated that before any policy was decided upon concerning the gender diverse section of the statute, there was to be wide discussion and input from parental and other groups across the state so that a workable solution could be found and adopted. We see no serious attempt at a wide discussion and input from the State Department of Education to this point. (we seriously hope we are wrong) The draft policy that has been posted by the Department of Education is not helpful, and in fact, is harmful, to our Gender Diverse Students, other students, families and the state. It looks very much like the policy developed and published by the Human Rights Commission, ACLU and others who are pushing a radical, left wing agenda. This agenda was adopted as policy in Delaware and is now legal proceedings. Some schools in Minnesota have also bought into the policy and how have great difficulties. Parents are pulling their children from the schools, beginning legal actions and much else. This is not what we need for our state. We can solve these issues if we allow parents at their local school to look at the needs and counsel together as a beginning. People know how to work together, and care about all students, if given the opportunity. Guidelines for our administrators may be next and then evaluations of different models to determine what is actually helpful for all the students. We hope these items and thoughts are helpful in your deliberations, work and responsibilities in support of the families and students of Nevada. We are happy to be of service. Thank you,

Justin P. Rowberry, M.D. David R. Rowberry, Ph.D. Henderson, Nevada 89074