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Testimony re SB 253—March 19, 2003
Senate Human Resources and Facilities
Washoe County School District
Dotty Merrill, Senior Director
Public Policy, Accountability & Assessment

Senator Rawson, members of the Committee, and staff—for the record. . . .

On March 18, 2003, in a public meeting, the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to support Senate Bill 253. We agree with the concerns that have been communicated to you by the Clark County School District.

We respectfully propose a “friendly” amendment to Senate Bill 253. This proposal is to add a new subsection to Section 1 with language that would make it permissive for the board of trustees of each school district to establish an appeal procedure for pupils with extenuating circumstances involving physical or mental issues.

The Trustees and Superintendent strongly encourage your “do pass” action upon Senate Bill 253—with the inclusion of this “friendly” amendment.

Proposed Friendly Amendment, Section 1

New subsection 2 with existing subsection 2 becoming subsection 3

The board of trustees of each school district may establish an appeal procedure for pupils not in attendance because they are physically or mentally unable to attend school and have been absent for more than 10 days within 1 school year with the approval of the teacher or principal.