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MEMORANDUM

TO:	School District Superintendents Charter School Sponsors
FROM:	Jhone M. Ebert, Superintendent of Public Instruction
DATE:	June 6, 2022
SUBJECT:	Implementation of Senate Bill 249 (2021) for the 2022-23 School Year

This memorandum is being issued to provide additional information to local education agencies (LEAs) on <u>Senate Bill (SB) 249</u>, passed during the 81st Legislative Session (2021) and effective July 1, 2021.

SB 249 establishes the following expectations:

- A school district's board of trustees may excuse a student from attendance with satisfactory written evidence "...that the child's physical or mental condition or behavioral health is such as to prevent or render inadvisable the child's attendance at school or his or her application to study."
- A school district's board of trustees may excuse a student from attendance with satisfactory written evidence from a qualified physician, mental health professional, or behavioral health professional, including qualified health professionals based within schools or school districts.
- If a school district's board of trustees has excused a student from attendance in accordance with SB 249, "the excusal must not negatively affect the rating of a public school as determined by the Department pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools" (NRS 392.050, section 4).

Coding of School and District Level Absences under SB 249

Nevada school districts and charter schools should use the following code from the Standard Codes for Infinite Campus, for all absences as related to the implementation of SB 249:

• MDP – Medical: professional excuse provided

Consistent with current absence criteria at the school level, the "Partial Attendance" provisions of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state that students who have not attended for at least half

the school year cannot be used in determining a school's accountability rating. If a student has not been enrolled more than 90 days in a school, no MDP codes will be removed for that student at that school per SB 249.

For additional information regarding supports for students' mental or behavioral health, please contact Christy McGill, Director for the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, <u>cmcgill@doe.nv.gov</u>.

For additional information regarding coding of absences within Infinite Campus, please contact Peter Zutz, Administrator for Assessment, Data, and Accountability Management at <u>pzutz@doe.nv.gov</u>.