

Esteemed members of the Interim Finance Committee. My name is Erica Ruud. I am writing to discuss the urgent importance of maintaining funding to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP). With no in-state option for Nevada students aspiring to become veterinarians, this funding is vital to Nevada students who are otherwise unable to take on the debt burden that would come with attending an out-of-state veterinary school. This not only affects high-achieving students but may also hurt Nevada's animals in the future, if Nevada cannot provide a supportive environment for veterinarians.

Please save the funding and the animals.

Thank you,

Erica