

To: IFC@lcb.state.nv.us

Re: Interim Finance Committee

Date: August 17, 2022

Chair Brooks and members of the Interim Finance Committee. My name is Ann Silver and I serve as CEO of the Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in northern Nevada with over 2,300 businesses and non-profits as members that employ over 110,000 residents.

The time for reckoning with our public health resources is long overdue. Extensive population growth, our inability to hire much-needed medical professionals, the lack of school and hospital nurses, the rising cost of health care, and the negative consequences of illness on commerce such as we experienced during the pandemic, make clear the need for an expanded site where employees can be screened for infectious diseases, get vaccines, and be seen by an in-person professional.

A \$10 million request from the Washoe County Health District is not unreasonable given the volume of Nevada's ARPA money and the impact it can address regarding critical health care in our community.

During the pandemic, the Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce served several times as a vaccine site with hundreds of cars waiting in line. An additional, permanent site to address future healthcare demands and the wellness of a growing population seems like an easy "yes" vote for this committee.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Ann Silver, CEO
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