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High Sierra Area Health Education
Center is a federally and state
funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed
to serving under-served and rural
population of Northwestern Nevada in
collaboration with the University of
Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and
the Office of Statewide Initiatives.

August 17, 2022

RE: Interim Finance Committee Public Comment

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed \$172 million being considered to improve Nevada's Public Health System. I am Andrea Gregg, Chief Executive Officer for High Sierra Area Health Education Center (also known as AHEC), for the record. I am a proud alumnus of the University Of Nevada Reno School Of Public Health and have spent the last 15 years leading an organization that serves as a critical convener between academic, employer, and community-based partners to develop, diversify and distribute the health care and public health workforce needs of our state.

A sound and sustainable PH infrastructure is an urgent matter. These investments provide a historic opportunity to invest in the public health workforce and build for the future while ensuring that health outcomes improve over the long term.

The proposed Academic Health Departments are an innovative solution for the public health ecosystem, bringing together interdisciplinary professionals and cross-sector collaboration. This investment will yield a substantial rate of return and provide an invaluable opportunity to restore our state's public health, behavioral health, primary care, and social service systems; protecting and improving our population's health, eliminating disparities, and advancing health equity.

Thank you,

Andrea L. Gregg



Andrea L Gregg
Chief Executive Officer
High Sierra Area Health Education Center