



## Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance

[NNVHRA@gmail.com](mailto:NNVHRA@gmail.com)

Instagram | @nomoredeadhomes

Venmo | NNHRA775

EIN| 93-4438072

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RE: Public Comment

Dear Joint Interim Committee on Health and Human Services-

The Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance's (NNHRA) mission is to support a coordinated, quality, person-centered, and trauma-informed system of care that supports autonomy, education, and support for people who use drugs and follows the [Principles of Harm Reduction](#). To this end, the NNHRA supports the expansion of distribution of naloxone and fentanyl test strip distribution in northern Nevada.

In 2022 the Nevada State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System [reported](#) 47.6 of people who died by unintentional drug overdose in Washoe County were between the ages 18 and 44. According to the Association of Governing Boards (AGB), several higher education institutions have initiated efforts to make naloxone more widely available on college campuses. In their March 2020, [AGB newsletter](#) the organization explains how the Bridgewater State University has stocked 60 naloxone kits in defibrillator boxes across campus and stocks kit in the parking lot for students or staff.

NNHRA supports naloxone availability on all college campuses in Nevada, this can be achieved through NSHE institutions becoming naloxone distribution sites. This would allow NSHE institutions to manage their own stock and supply of naloxone using the Nevada's Virtual Naloxone Dispensary. Distribution on campus can also be achieved through partnership with existing Naloxone distribution programs like our organization, or any other listed [here](#). A partnering organization can stock naloxone distribution centers on campus. Partnering with existing organizations may be less administratively cumbersome for campus administration.

Nevada's elected leaders have made great strides to ensure naloxone is available for Nevadans with the passage of [SB459](#) in 2015 and [AB205](#) in 2021, which allowed schools in Nevada to stock naloxone. Ensuring that students and faculty on college campuses can access naloxone is in alignment with these legislative efforts.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Regards,

Board of Directors

[Northern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance](#)