
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9—SENATORS CANNIZZARO,
SETTELMAYER, RATTI AND HARDY

MAY 31, 2021

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Expresses appreciation for assistance provided to the Nevada Legislature with its response to the global COVID-19 pandemic during the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature. (BDR R-1185)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE RESOLUTION—Expressing appreciation to certain persons and organizations who provided assistance to the Nevada Legislature with its response to the global COVID-19 pandemic during the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature.

1 WHEREAS, The 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature
2 commenced during unprecedented times in the midst of the COVID-
3 19 global pandemic; and

4 WHEREAS, Richard Whitley, Director of the Department of
5 Health and Human Services, encouraged his staff to work
6 cooperatively with and provide assistance to the Nevada Legislature
7 to ensure the safety of the Legislators, staff members and others
8 meeting in the Legislative Building during the legislative session;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The assistance and guidance of the expert staff of the
11 Department were invaluable throughout the legislative session in
12 determining the safest way to bring Legislators, staff members and
13 others together in the Legislative Building; and

14 WHEREAS, Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of the Division of
15 Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and
16 Human Services, was instrumental in coordinating the provision of
17 COVID-19 testing onsite at the Legislative Building throughout the
18 legislative session so that everyone in the building could be tested
19 quickly and easily throughout the session; and



1 WHEREAS, Julia Peek further assisted in coordinating
2 vaccination events to be held at the Legislative Building so that
3 Legislators, staff members and others could be vaccinated against
4 COVID-19 onsite as early as possible, making it safer to work in the
5 Legislative Building together; and

6 WHEREAS, Melissa Peek-Bullock, the State Epidemiologist, was
7 available throughout the legislative session to provide expertise
8 regarding best practices, answer questions and assist with
9 determining the appropriate response when positive cases were
10 found within the Legislative Building; and

11 WHEREAS, Victoria Sepcic, Health Facilities Inspector for the
12 Division, provided prompt and thorough contact tracing of positive
13 cases so that the Legislature could quickly identify any potential
14 exposures and take appropriate action; and

15 WHEREAS, The State Public Health Laboratory of the University
16 of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine provided prompt and accurate
17 test results when additional testing was necessary to confirm
18 positive cases; and

19 WHEREAS, When it became possible to safely open the
20 Legislative Building to members of the public, David Crowell,
21 Interface Manager of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health,
22 assisted by Emma Fawcett, Administrative Assistant, and other staff
23 of the Division further stepped up by quickly verifying the
24 vaccination status of visitors to the Legislative Building, even
25 spending hours onsite to check the vaccination status of visitors who
26 did not send the information in advance; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the
28 members of the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature wish to
29 specifically thank Richard Whitley, Director of the Department of
30 Health and Human Services; Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of
31 the Division of Public and Behavioral Health; David Crowell,
32 Interface Manager of the Division; Emma Fawcett, Administrative
33 Assistant of the Division, and the other employees of the Division
34 who assisted with verifying the vaccination status of visitors to the
35 Legislature; Melissa Peek-Bullock, State Epidemiologist; Victoria
36 Sepcic, Health Facilities Inspector; the entire team at the
37 Department of Health and Human Services, who went above and
38 beyond, working tirelessly behind the scenes to support the public
39 health response at the Nevada Legislature, and who continue to
40 address the public health response for the State; and Dr. Mark
41 Pandori and his team at the State Public Health Laboratory of the
42 University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, who assisted with
43 the needs of the Legislature; and be it further

44 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
45 transmit a copy of this resolution to Richard Whitley, Director of the



- 1 Department of Health and Human Services and Dr. Mark Pandori,
- 2 State Public Health Laboratory; and be it further
- 3 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
- 4 adoption.

