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**State of Nevada
Assembly**

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Chair

Legislative Operations and Elections

Member

Education

Ways and Means

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Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents,

June 6, 2026

Thank you for all that you do for our community and state. I am proud to write today to express my support for the proposed PsyD in Clinical Psychology at UNLV. As a proud NV State Legislator and UNLV alumni, I know the importance and the community need for mental health services throughout our valley and state. Thank you for working towards increasing the pipeline for access in our state.

One of the hardest things we hear about is lack of access to care and support services for communities and people who need them most. Whether it's long waitlists for services to workforce shortages, lack of mental health providers is one of the most frequently advocated issues I hear about. I am thrilled UNLV is proposing putting forth a pathway that will add to solving these foundational and community-wide issues. Having an accessible program to advance clinical training is the start to continuing to increase access and care. Moreover, UNLV's focus on underrepresented students to both train and stay in their communities is commendable and I believe will help solve the problem.

As a proud foster parent who recently adopted 2 brothers including one with an autism diagnosis, I personally know how hard it is for families to both get their children assessed and then receive the services they need. I am also incredibly excited about this program since it will provide a local doctoral program that provides strong training in assessment of neurodevelopmental conditions as well as evidence-based interventions with children and families. Thank you for all that you do to support NV and all of our institutions. I know governing is not easy especially during these times and I thank you for your service. Thank you for seriously considering my input today.

Erica V Mosca, Assemblymember District 14, Ast Maj Leader
Boston University BS // UNLV Ed.M // Harvard M.ED
Erica.Mosca@asm.state.nv.us

From: [NSHE](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2026 9:01:17 PM

External Email:

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026

Email: dr.courtneyhaight@behdevelopment.com

Name: Courtney Haight

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026

Agenda Item: Program proposal PsyD Clinical Psychology UNLV

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I am in strong support of the PsyD program in Clinical Psychology at UNLV and hope to continue to work alongside the department in a strong evidence-based program as a community provider. Nevada is also severely underserved in youth substance use treatment services as well as pediatric providers and this program would positively impact the field of psychology as well as the Nevada mental health community.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [NSHE](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 11:55:30 AM

External Email:

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026

Email: katkrach@gmail.com

Name: S. Kathleen Krach

Representing someone other than yourself?: N/A

Meeting: Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 11-12, 2026

Agenda Item: 44. Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology at UNLV (Ref. ARSA-5)

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Nevada is currently #50 in mental health services in the country. There is a problematic shortage of psychological practitioners and faculty. This Psy.D. program would help boost the numbers of mental health care providers significantly in the state.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)



May 18, 2026

Office of the Provost
Clark Administration, Room 110
University of Nevada, Reno
1664 N. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89557

Dear Provost Thompson and Senior Vice-Provost Catalano:

This letter intends to provide you our enthusiastic support for the NSHE Board of Regents to approve a veterinary school based here at the University of Nevada, Reno. Over the past month, we have met twice to share our collective ideas and experiences gained from teaching and service roles at a multitude of veterinary schools in the US and overseas. We believe it should further catalyze the University's set of strengths toward establishing a veterinary school here with the knowledge that we already have ten faculty members who possess advanced training in veterinary medicine and many of us have taught classes here and elsewhere in the topics specifically required by the AVMA's educational program standards for accreditation. This experience provides the University a large set of specialty-trained, academically-oriented, and accomplished veterinarians immediately available for the efficient and strategic development of its own professional veterinary curriculum and associated facilities. Altogether, we offer substantial clinical, research and teaching experience spanning the range of studies and species essential for veterinary schools at the individual and population level of health care.

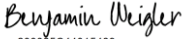
Our existing research programs mirror that breadth and provide the University additional strengths since this is another parameter necessary for AVMA accreditation. As you know, the University's pre-professional Veterinary Science major is one of the most popular in CABNR with approximately 222 undergraduate students currently enrolled, thereby demonstrating a measurable indicator of our active engagement in many of these same curriculum topics. We are also fortunate to have a member of the AVMA's House of Delegates (Hannah Rodriguez) on our faculty, helping to keep us updated with the latest developments which would impact our program and the field at large. Many of the curriculum domains required of accredited veterinary schools and already well-represented by our own specific areas of active teaching and research are reflected below.

Please feel welcome to reach out to us so that we may help secure the successful approval of a veterinary school on behalf of the University's trajectory of growth and to benefit all of Nevada.


Yours sincerely,

Signed by:
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Teglas".
9F21F63E2985471...


Mike Teglas, DVM, Ph.D. – AVRS Dept. Head, CABNR
Parasitology, anatomy, and many other domains.

DocuSigned by:

200025C44015489


Ben Weigler, DVM, MPH, Ph.D., DACLAM, DACVPM – R&I Animal Resources
Laboratory animal medicine, epidemiology, biostatistics, and zoonotic diseases (*board certified*).

Signed by:

D2C6B9836947415


Walt Mandeville, DVM, MS – R&I Animal Resources
Large animal diseases, herd health, small animal diseases, food safety, surgical principles, and poultry medicine.

Signed by:

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
Euan Allan, MSc, Ph.D. – Dept. Microbiology and Immunology, School of Medicine
Immunology, infectious diseases, and many other domains.

DocuSigned by:

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Camila Dorez (spouse of Euan Allan), DVM, Ph.D., ACVP
Anatomic and clinical pathology (*board certified*).

Signed by:

A4BCB9A735E348C

Hannah Rodriguez, DVM, MPH – Dept. AVRS, CABNR
Anatomy, ethics, mixed practice, infectious diseases, and many other domains.

DocuSigned by:

9B60BC6214B146D

Isadora Batalha, DVM, Ph.D. – Dept. AVRS, CABNR
Anatomy, reproductive physiology, animal nutrition, and livestock management.

Signed by:

F8D390B3A7E5423

Amilton de Mello, DVM, MS, Ph.D. – Dept. AVRS, CABNR
Meat sciences, food safety, food security, and HACCP.

DocuSigned by:

0E2EC0D0849438

Luis Schütz, DVM, Ph.D. – Dept. AVRS, CABNR
Reproductive biology and physiology.

Signed by:

07F8807CC83C47E

Kelley Steury, DVM, MPH, DACVPM – School of Public Health (begins July 2026)
Public health, epidemiology, zoonotic diseases, and disaster management (*board certified*)

CC: Brian Sandoval, University of Nevada, Reno President
Mridul Gautam, University of Nevada, Reno, Senior Vice-President, Research & Innovation
Bill Payne, CABNR Dean
Chris Pritsos, CABNR Assoc. Dean and Director, University of Nevada, Reno Experiment Station
Michael Flores, Vice President, Government and Community Engagement
Sheila Bray, Senior Director, Government and Community Engagement
Aubrey Flores, Chief of Staff – Office of the President
Leslie Whittle, Chief of Staff – Office of the Provost
Kerri Garcia Hendricks – University of Nevada, Reno Executive Director, Marketing and Communications
Scott Walquist – Senior Director of Communications
Natalie Fry – Director, Research Communications

Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents
2601 Enterprise Road
Reno, Nevada 89512

Re: (Item 3 & Item 5 on the Academic Affairs Agenda) Support for UNLV Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology and Ongoing Implementation of SB 165

Dear Members of the Board of Regents:

The undersigned organizations write in strong support of the approval of the Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). We also urge the Board to commit to ongoing, sustained funding for the full implementation of Senate Bill 165 (2025), Nevada's landmark children's behavioral health workforce legislation.

Nevada's Children Cannot Wait

Nevada consistently ranks among the lowest states in access to children's behavioral health services. The demand for trained practitioners far outpaces the supply. SB 165 was designed to change that by building a pipeline of credentialed professionals from the bachelor's through doctoral level. The UNLV program is the first major deliverable under that vision.

What We Are Asking the Board to Support

- Approve the UNLV Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology. This flagship program, led by nationally recognized researchers, is designed as a two-semester capstone pathway with clear connections to graduate and doctoral pathways.
- Commit to ongoing, sustainable funding for SB 165 programs including what will promise to be the first APA-accredited child doctoral psychology internship in the state at UNLV's PRACTICE Institute of Mental & Behavioral Health. One-time, two-year allocations will make a good start but more will be needed to build the workforce needed. Nevada needs a long-term investment commitment that keeps pace with program enrollment and practicum/internship demand. The internship will be available to any NSHE doctoral psychology trainee (i.e., UNR included) and will help retain emerging psychologists in Nevada by providing the required residency training within the state.
- Support applying the lessons learned from UNLV to programs across the NSHE system at UNR, GBC, and other institutions to expand statewide reach.
- Prioritize the full workforce pipeline. Approval of the degree is step one. We urge the Board to also support the infrastructure needed to make it work: practicum supervisor training and capacity, scholarship funding, microcredential pathways

for existing teachers and community workers, and employer partnerships that connect graduates to jobs.

While this letter is primarily intended to express support for the implementation of SB 165 and the approval of the proposed Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology, we also recognize the importance of supporting approval of the proposed Children's PsyD program at UNLV. As the first program of its kind in Nevada, the program would expand doctoral-level training focused on child mental health, including neurodevelopmental needs such as autism. The practice-focused program would help address Nevada's shortage of child psychologists while strengthening the state's behavioral health workforce pipeline.

Our Commitment

The organizations signing this letter represent Nevada's children's advocacy community, schools, community-based organizations, healthcare systems, and youth-serving nonprofits. We are committed to being partners in implementation. We stand ready to support student recruitment, expand practicum placement opportunities, advocate for the next round of legislative funding, and ensure that this workforce is deployed where Nevada's children need it most.

Nevada made a generational commitment when it passed SB 165. The Board of Regents has the opportunity to bring that commitment to life. We urge your support and your partnership.

Respectfully submitted,

Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA)

Elisa Cafferata, Executive Director
Alexis Marin, Health Policy Manager

Avery Burton Foundation

Reginald Burton, Founder

Best Practices Nevada LLC

Brandon Ford, Healthcare Consultant

Act4Kids Nevada

Tahnee Forlini, Vice President
Mindy Robin Rodrigues, Advocate

Communities In Schools of Nevada

Tami Hance-Lehr, CEO & State Director

Division of Child and Family Services

Whitny Castillo, Psychiatric Caseworker

United Way of Southern Nevada

Arlene Rivera, External Affairs Manager Partnerships + Coalitions

Foster Kinship

Sasha Ritchie, Director of Thriving After Academy

Clark County Black Caucus

Yvette Williams, Caucus Chair

United Citizens Foundation DBA Miracle Minds Therapy

Ash Mirchandani, Chair/CEO

Boys Town Nevada

John Etzell, Executive Director

Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium

Dan Musgrove, Chair

Americorp/City Hall of Las Vegas

Latreka Watson, Community Navigator

March 2, 2026



Dear Dr. Thompson,

The Nevada Cattlemen's Association would like to express strong support for the establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Creating a veterinary school in Nevada is a timely and strategic investment that will advance education, strengthen the state's agricultural and animal industries, expand access to veterinary care, and drive economic growth.

Nevada's diverse landscape—ranging from urban centers to rural ranching communities—creates a unique and pressing need for well-trained veterinarians. Many rural and agricultural regions in the state face significant shortages of veterinary professionals, particularly those specializing in large animal medicine. Establishing a veterinary school at UNR would help address these shortages by educating and retaining talented students who are committed to serving Nevada's communities.

In addition to strengthening animal health, a veterinary program would play a critical role in supporting public health and food safety. Veterinarians are essential partners in disease prevention, biosecurity, and emergency preparedness. A UNR veterinary school would enhance Nevada's capacity to respond to emerging animal and zoonotic diseases, benefiting both animal and human populations.

Most importantly, a College of Veterinary Medicine at UNR would offer Nevada students the opportunity to pursue veterinary education within their home state. This would reduce the financial and geographic barriers many aspiring veterinarians currently face and increase the likelihood that graduates remain in Nevada to practice.

For these reasons, the NCA encourages the establishment of a veterinary school at the University of Nevada, Reno. This initiative represents a forward-thinking investment in Nevada's future—one that will yield lasting benefits for students, communities, industries, and the health of both animals and people across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Paris". The signature is written in a cursive style and is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Martin Paris
Executive Director
Nevada Cattlemen's Association

June 9, 2026

Nevada System of Higher Education
Board of Regents
2601 Enterprise Road
Reno, NV 89512

Dear Members of the Board of Regents,

I am writing in support of the establishment of a school of veterinary medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno. This initiative represents a strategic investment in Nevada's future—one that will strengthen public health systems, expand workforce opportunities, support key industries, and elevate our state's standing at the national level.

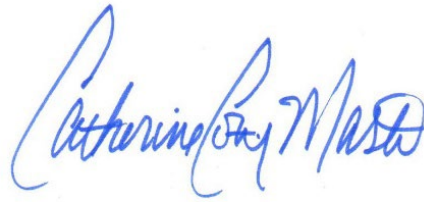
Nevada's continued growth depends on our ability to develop and retain a highly skilled workforce. Currently, Nevada faces a significant shortage of veterinarians, particularly in rural and underserved communities. This shortage impacts not only agricultural operations, but also companion animal care, wildlife management, and public health preparedness. Through creation of a veterinary school in Nevada, we can build a sustainable pipeline of professionals trained to meet the unique needs of our communities.

Veterinarians are essential partners in disease prevention, food safety, and the monitoring of diseases that can impact both animal and human populations. Expanding in-state training capacity enhances Nevada's ability to respond to public health challenges and ensures better coordination across local, state, and federal systems.

A School of Veterinary Medicine would enhance Nevada's visibility and recognition at the federal level as institutions with accredited veterinary programs often serve as hubs for federally funded research initiatives, national partnerships, and emergency response networks. This investment would position Nevada as a leader in addressing regional and national challenges related to animal health, food systems, and public safety.

The University of Nevada, Reno, has a strong foundation in agriculture, environmental science, and research, making it well-positioned to successfully develop and sustain a veterinary program. For these reasons, I ask for your full and fair consideration of the establishment of a school of veterinary medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of my staff with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Cortez Masto". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a distinct 'M'.

Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator