

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
NEVADA

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United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS

Sept 8, 2022

Dr. DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Dear President Pollard,

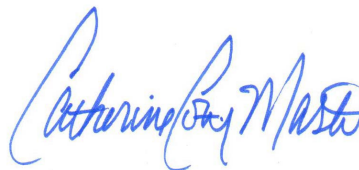
I am writing in support of the proposal to rename Nevada State College (NSC) to Nevada State University.

Nevada State College is a rapidly growing and diverse institution that has been serving Southern Nevada for two decades. This name change will reflect its critical role in the community and expand opportunities for its student population. The name change will not shift NSC's core mission or change the tuition or fee structure of the school but instead provide clarity and help NSC attract more students to its successful programs. In a comprehensive analysis of 122 institutions in the United States, a renaming from college to university increased enrollment and yield rates.

Over the last 20 years, Nevada State College has grown to 7,200 students and has begun to offer master's degrees. Over this time, the terms "college" and "university" have shifted. Most four-year institutions like NSC use the term "university," while "college" has become associated with community colleges. In fact, less than 1% of schools within Nevada State's current Carnegie Classification in the Western U.S. use the term "college" in their name. This name change will reflect NSC's important role in the community and communicate to prospective students the types of programs and offerings the school provides.

This name change has broad support from localities such as the City of Henderson, local chambers of commerce, and elected officials. I am proud to join these stakeholders in expressing strong support of Nevada State's name change and look forward to working with you continue to support our students and workforce in Southern Nevada.

Sincerely,



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator

August 31, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Nevada State Renaming Proposal

Dear President Pollard,

As members of the Southern Nevada Congressional delegation, we want to express our strong support for the proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University. We agree this change is necessary to better reflect Nevada State as the youngest, most diverse, and fastest-growing institution in the state.

Nevada State is both a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI). Furthermore, 55 percent of Nevada State students are the first in their family to attend college. These first-generation students help create upward economic mobility for themselves and their families.

Founded in 2002, Nevada State has delivered on its mission to provide access for a diverse population of students in high-need workforce areas such as education, business, and healthcare. For instance, nearly 50 percent of all bachelor-prepared

nurses over the past three years graduating from a Nevada System of Higher Education institution were trained at NSC's School of Nursing.

This renaming will reflect these accomplishments and is also important because students experience increased earnings of about \$1,500 per year when their college is converted to a university. In a comprehensive, nation-wide analysis of 122 institutions, a renaming from college to university also increased enrollment and yield rates.

Over the last 20 years, Nevada State has continued to grow and now has over 7,200 students. It offers a master's degree in speech-language pathology and graduated its largest class ever in 2022. The proposed name change seeks to clarify—but not alter—Nevada State's mission. As Nevada continues to find ways to expand access into higher education, it is essential to support our colleges and universities. For these reasons, we support this renaming and applaud your efforts to create a university for all.

Sincerely,



Dina Titus

Member of Congress



Susie Lee

Member of Congress



Steven Horsford

Member of Congress

September 8, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Nevada State Renaming Proposal

Dear President Pollard,

As members of the Nevada Black Legislative Caucus, we want to express our collective support for the proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University. Nevada State is both the youngest and fastest-growing institution of higher education in the state. It exists to create access and opportunity for students of all backgrounds.

We agree now is the time to call out and validate the education of Nevada State's students as equal to that of any similar university. Mislabeled Nevada State as a "college" creates confusion for its students, faculty, and alumni. Nevada State's access mission led to the creation of Sankofa, a mentorship program designed to support the retention and recruitment of Black students. The university renaming will aid in the recruitment of more first-generation Black students into Sankofa, which will encourage students to change their communities through higher education.

Additionally, Nevada State is both a Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) and Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). In addition, 55% of its students are the first in their family to attend college. As Nevada seeks to continue expanding its diverse workforce and create upward economic mobility throughout our communities, it is essential to support and foster institutions like Nevada State that consists of an almost entirely home-grown workforce. We support this renaming which seeks to bring clarity to Nevada State's existing mission. As we seek to propel our economy and education system forward, we applaud your efforts in creating a university for all.

Sincerely,

Chair Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno
Vice Chair Assemblyman Cameron Miller
Treasurer Assemblyman Howard Watts
Senator Dina Deal
Senator Pat Spearman
Senator Dallas Harris
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
Assemblywoman Claire Thomas
Assemblywoman Shondra Summers-Armstrong

August 18, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Nevada State Renaming Proposal

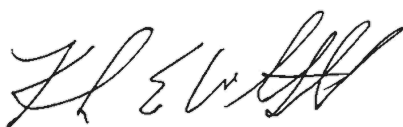
Dear President Pollard,

As Nevadans and leaders of our respective institutions, we believe the best solutions will be found when all levels of higher education work together to serve the people of the state and beyond. We came together this past June for a roundtable to demonstrate the importance of increase collaboration. We hope to continue this effort by working together on a shared regional plan in the near future. In that spirit, we write in support of your proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University. We understand that this plan already has broad support, including from the City of Henderson, local chambers of commerce, and elected officials.

As we understand your intent, the renaming is designed to accelerate more opportunities for Nevada State's diverse student population. There are several possible issues that arise from considering the name change in question, mission creep being the most notable. But the conditions and constraints that you have outlined: no intention to be a research university and no change to the funding formula, should allow for the issue of creep to be irrelevant. We believe the name change can add value for Southern Nevadans and validation to your students and alumni as well as help facilitate economic growth and diversification in our region without detracting from the work of the other institutions. The name also brings you in line with other like institutions in the western United States.

Our support for this renaming effort demonstrates our commitment to growing the college going population in our state. We hope our alignment can unlock new energy and innovation that can only from Southern Nevada.

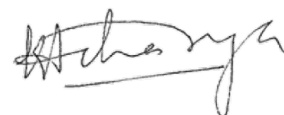
Sincerely,



Dr. Keith Whitfield
President
University of Nevada,
Las Vegas (UNLV)



Dr. Federico Zaragoza
President
College of Southern
Nevada (CSN)



Dr. Kumud Acharya
President
Desert Research
Institute (DRI)



RESOLUTION NO.

(Resolution in Support of the Effort to Change the Name of Nevada State College to “Nevada State University”)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HENDERSON, NEVADA, IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF NEVADA STATE COLLEGE TO “NEVADA STATE UNIVERSITY”

- WHEREAS, Nevada State College (“Nevada State”) was established as Nevada’s first state college on September 3, 2002, with just over 200 students and has grown steadily to a thriving campus with student enrollment of more than 7,200, graduating its largest class ever in 2022; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada State is the only four-year, comprehensive public institution in Nevada, accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities and recognized as one of the fastest-growing colleges in the nation; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada State is designated as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI), Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Institution (AANAPI) and places a special emphasis on the advancement of diverse and largely under-served student populations, with 56 percent of its enrollment consisting of first-generation college students and 77 percent representing ethnic diversity; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada has one of the lowest educational attainment rates of adults with bachelor’s degrees in the United States and is ranked 46th in the nation when it comes to the rate of those attending college, making it more urgent than ever to offer clear educational choices and expand access to higher education opportunities; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Henderson has a long record of strongly supporting Nevada State and its mission, including helping to secure land where the campus is located and investing in further development of the campus, including contributions to the new student housing facility and the Glenn and Ande Christenson School of Education building; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. DeRionne Pollard began her tenure on August 16, 2021, as the first permanent Black woman president of Nevada State and any Nevada System of Higher Education institution and, along with her dynamic leadership team, has set a bold vision to differentiate the institution as they advance equity, improve educational opportunities and increase educational attainment; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada State is the only primarily four-year institution in the State of Nevada still using “college” to represent its mission, and in every sense except the name has been operating as a university for years; and

WHEREAS, according to research, colleges that change their name to “University” experience a 5.2 percent increase in first-time students within five years and an increase of 7.2 percent after six years, and increased enrollment as a result of the renaming will further strengthen Nevada’s economic competitiveness in attracting new companies by helping to ensure the availability of an educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, as America’s Premier Community, the City of Henderson is committed to providing services and resources that enhance the quality of life for those who live, learn, work and play in our city and to supporting our strategic priority of quality education; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Henderson, Nevada, that:

SECTION 1. The City of Henderson believes that changing the name of Nevada State from “College” to “University” is essential for improving economic mobility and facilitating economic growth and diversification in Nevada.

SECTION 2. The City of Henderson joins the community in supporting this initiative, including 82 percent of students, faculty and alumni who were surveyed.

SECTION 3. The City of Henderson salutes Nevada State on their 20th anniversary and supports changing its name from “College” to “University” as a natural progression to recognize the youngest, most diverse and fastest-growing institution in the state and fortify their continued success.

SECTION 4. The City of Henderson urges Nevada’s Board of Regents to approve changing the name of Nevada State College to Nevada State University.

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2705

(Resolution to Support Nevada State College in Renaming the Institution's Name from
"College" to "University")

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, SUPPORTING NEVADA STATE COLLEGE IN RENAMING THE INSTITUTION'S NAME FROM "COLLEGE" TO "UNIVERSITY"

- WHEREAS, Nevada State College ("Nevada State") was established as Nevada's first state college on September 3, 2002, with just over 200 students and has grown steadily to a thriving campus with student enrollment of more than 7,200, graduating its largest class ever in 2022; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada State currently serves approximately 600 students from North Las Vegas (the "City") in addition to 515 students from the City who have already graduated;
- WHEREAS, Nevada State is designated as a Minority Service Institution (MSI), Hispanic Servicing Institution (HSI) and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Institution (AANAPI) and places a special emphasis on the advancement of diverse and largely underserved student populations, with 56 percent of its enrollment consisting of first-generation college students and 77 percent representing ethnic diversity; and
- WHEREAS, according to research, colleges that change their names to "University" experience a 5.2 percent increase in first-time students within five years and an increase of 7.2 percent after six years; and
- WHEREAS, higher education is necessary for economic mobility and generational advancement in Nevada, particularly for students of color and from low-income backgrounds who have faced historic and systemic inequities, and who deserve accessibility to educational programs and university designations that reflect the full value of their work; and
- WHEREAS, increased enrollment as a result of the renaming will further enhance residents' opportunities for success and strengthen the City's economic competitiveness by ensuring the availability of an educated workforce and attracting new companies and industries; and
- WHEREAS, Nevada has one of the lowest educational attainment rates of adults with bachelor's degrees in the United States and is ranked 46th in the nation when it comes to the rate of those attending college, making it more urgent than ever to offer clear educational choices and expand access to higher education opportunities for residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of North Las Vegas, Nevada, that:

- SECTION 1. The City of North Las Vegas believes that changing the name of Nevada State College from “College” to “University” is essential for improving outcomes and economic mobility for residents, particularly underserved populations including communities of color and lower-income communities.
- SECTION 2. The City of North Las Vegas believes that changing the name of Nevada State College from “College” to “University” is important for facilitating economic growth and diversification in Nevada and the City of North Las Vegas.
- SECTION 3. The City of North Las Vegas joins the community in supporting this initiative, which was endorsed by 82 percent of students, faculty and alumni of Nevada State who were surveyed.
- SECTION 4. The City of North Las Vegas salutes Nevada State on their 20th anniversary and supports Nevada State in changing its name from “College” to “University” to increase access to higher education for the City's diverse minority-majority population.
- SECTION 5. The City of North Las Vegas urges Nevada’s Board of Regents to approve changing the name of Nevada State College to Nevada State University.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS this__day of_____, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

NAYS: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

APPROVED:

John J. Lee, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jackie Rodgers, City Clerk



September 7, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Nevada State College Renaming Proposal

Dear President Pollard:

On behalf of the members of the LVGEA50 Board of Directors, the largest business board of its kind in Nevada, we want to express our unanimous support for the proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University.

We believe that what is positive for higher education is also good for economic development. Across the nation, the 'college' designation has increasingly been associated with two-year community colleges, and no longer reflects the four-year education programming at Nevada State or the fact the school offers a master's degree. This name change will help clarify and reaffirm, not change, Nevada State's mission to educate and train the region's workforce.

Additionally, the renaming will add value and validation to the school and its graduates, conveying the educational excellence and quality of instruction Nevada State delivers to its students.

We believe this name change request will position Nevada State for a new era of enrollment growth, educational excellence, and innovation, and the LVGEA50 board is excited to support Nevada State's mission to create a university for all.

Sincerely,
On behalf of the LVGEA50 Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'T. Quigley'.

Tina Quigley
President & CEO
Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Betsy Fretwell'.

Betsy Fretwell
Chairwoman
LVGEA50 Board of Directors



September 15, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Nevada State College Renaming Proposal

Dear President Pollard:

On behalf of Workforce Connections, I want to express support for the proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University.

Higher education is a critical piece of our regional workforce development efforts. Across the nation, the 'college' designation has increasingly been associated with two-year community colleges. Nevada State offers four-year education programming and a master's degree. This name change will help clarify and reaffirm, not change, Nevada State's mission to educate and train the region's workforce.

The new name will add value and validation to the school and its graduates, conveying the educational excellence and quality of instruction Nevada State delivers to its students. The new name will position Nevada State for a new era of enrollment growth, educational excellence, and innovation, and as the region's local workforce development board, we are excited to support Nevada State's mission to create a university for all.

Sincerely,

Jaime Cruz
Executive Director
Workforce Connections



A Member of The Valley Health System™

August 16, 2022

President DeRionne Pollard
1300 Nevada State College Drive
Henderson, NV 89002

Re: Support for the Nevada State Renaming Proposal to University

Dear President Pollard,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal to rename Nevada State College to Nevada State University. If implemented, this proposal would provide greater clarity for healthcare employers in the region and help Nevada State compete with other similarly situated institutions already using the university designation.

We recognize part of the reason for the renaming is because students nationally and in Nevada have difficulty distinguishing between two-year community colleges and four-year University programs. In addition, we understand employers in the region may also have difficulty assessing student credentials, which creates confusion in the regional marketplace.

Half of all bachelor's-prepared nurses in Nevada graduated from Nevada State in 2021. Therefore, it is imperative employers understand the value its students bring to our healthcare systems. We also know Nevada State has room to grow, having tripled its number of nursing graduates from 2010 to 2020.

For these reasons, Henderson Hospital enthusiastically supports the renaming to Nevada State University and applaud its efforts in bringing this proposal to the attention of the Nevada Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Sam Kaufman
CEO/Managing Director
Henderson Hospital

1050 W. Galleria Drive • Henderson NV 89011 • www.hendersonhospital.com





To: Dr. DeRionne Pollard, President, Nevada State College
From: Dan Gerety, Chairman, Nevada State College Foundation Board
September 1, 2022
Re: Proposed Name Change

Dear Dr. Pollard,


The Nevada State College Foundation has been in existence since before the college opened its doors, and our commitment has been, and continues to be to help support the college through spreading awareness, advocacy, and raising funds for the college.

This idea to change the name to Nevada State University was first presented to the Foundation board as early as 2019, and from that time to now, we have felt strongly that this will be a change that will better align the work of the institution to its name.

Many of our first board members were also the "Founders" for the college – those who sat around the kitchen table and dreamt of an institution housed in Henderson that helped more teachers and nurses enter our local workforce. As a board, we are excited to support this next step in their vision, and quite possibly, a vision they never anticipated would be so successful.

As we work to further our mission of sharing the brand and raising private funds for Nevada State, we support a name change that grows the university's economic competitiveness and brings equity for our students.

We are proud to be supporters of an institution that makes education accessible to all and are excited to continue to have a front seat for the evolution of Nevada State.


Chair

This letter will serve as the record of receipt for your gift. In accordance with IRS guidelines, please note that the estimated fair market value of goods and services provided in exchange for your donation is \$19.00. Nevada State College Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization. Tax ID 88-0464591. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Dear Dr. Pollard,

During my 10 years as Governor of Nevada I attempted to direct as many resources to education as possible. The budgets for higher education reflected this goal. Subsequent to those years Nevada State College was founded with a goal to provide enhanced opportunities for students in the burgeoning population of Southern Nevada. This recognition included a need for under populated health care and educational programs. Nevada State College was formed to help these needs and to provide quality education to many underserved communities in Southern Nevada.

In the past 20 years it has accomplished these goals and has grown to over 7,000 students. Graduates from Nevada State College are ready to step into the workforce with a quality education. They have received a university level degree and it should be recognized as such. Therefore, I join member of Congress, various elected officials, the Presidents of UNLV, DRI and CSN and numerous community leaders in supporting the renaming of Nevada State College to Nevada State University.

Bob Miller
Nevada Governor
1989-1999