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## Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, September 28, 2023

Email: doug.unger@nevadafacultyalliance.org

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Representing someone other than yourself?: Nevada Faculty Alliance

Meeting: Board of Regents Special Meeting

Meeting Date: September 28, 2023

Agenda Item: Public Comment – Agenda Items #4, and on FY '25 COLA

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

## **Comment:**

Doug Unger, President, UNLV Chapter, Nevada Faculty Alliance. Thank you to the Regents for your consideration.

Regarding Agenda Item #4, the information proposal to establish new Code for procedures for salary schedules, we strongly approve of the increased transparency of the proposed changes. We also wish to add that it is vital for our Community Colleges that the Regents insist on setting new salary minimums, as was testified to at the Quarterly meeting. We hope this effort is progressing.

Missing from this Special Meeting agenda is continued discussion and consideration of the COLA raises for fiscal year '25 "not to exceed" 11%—the 4% plus 7% set out in the AB 522 "pay bill." We state most emphatically that we believe NSHE faculty and professionals deserve the same COLA pay raise as all other state employees, no matter what measures the Regents must take. The 11% would restore salaries to approximately 86% of the purchasing

power of fourteen years ago. Any percentage less than the 11% will once more neglect fair pay for NSHE employees and once again lead to difficulties for hiring and retention, and, as well, will so negatively affect faculty morale so as to detract from NSHE's overall effectiveness in achieving our common mission and goals to educate our students and contribute to their success. Thank you for your most serious attention to this crucial salary issue on which the wellbeing of NSHE faculty and professional employees will depend not only next year but well into the future.

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

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