

**From:** [Lauren Smith](#)  
**To:** [Joseph P. Filippi](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment on mandated vaccinations  
**Date:** Monday, August 16, 2021 2:51:59 PM

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Hello,

My name is Lauren Smith and I am currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at the VA in Reno. I am also a Graduate of UNR and teach one class per semester. I am reaching out regarding NSHE potentially mandating COVID 19 vaccines for college students and staff. Mandating these vaccines violates a person's bodily autonomy and strips a person of many basic human rights. How is it that one person has the right to require another person to inject something into their body that they either find to be harmful or in violation of their religious beliefs? This is without a doubt medical tyranny and a very dangerous precedent to set.

Informed consent gives each person the right to refuse medical treatment. Additionally, medical treatment is an opt in system, not an opt out. Once a person is stripped of this right where do we draw the line? At what point is it unethical to force medical intervention on a person? Who accepts the liability if the person does sustain a vaccine injury?

Nevada state law also allows a person to refuse vaccines if it goes against their religious beliefs. Our country was founded on the foundation of religious freedom. At what point do we stop stripping people of their rights "for the greater good"? It's a fine line when we decide that the rights of the state outweigh the rights of the individual.

I urge you, PLEASE do not take these rights away from the students and staff.

Thank you for your time,

Lauren Smith