

**From:** [Caren Royce Yap](#)  
**To:** [Joseph P. Filippi](#)  
**Subject:** 9/20 Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, August 20, 2021 7:50:26 AM

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Hello!!

Here is my public comment for today's emergency meeting for action item 2A.

“Good morning to the Board of Health and all members of the public. My name is Caren Yap, the UNLV undergraduate student body president. I also serve as the Vice Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance, the student government governing body comprised of all of Nevada's Student body presidents. Firstly, I'd like to thank the board for hearing this agenda item. Secondly, I'd like to briefly touch on the importance of health and safety of all NSHE students. Although I appreciate an emergency meeting being called, the discussion and vote of mandating vaccines is something that should have taken place far before the beginning of the Fall semester. We have less than 3 days until most students are expected to resume courses and come to campus. As a commuter campus, students are coming to school taking the enormous risk of contracting COVID-19 and passing it on to their friends and family. Our residents and faculty run an even higher risk of having their own livelihood shut down yet again. We are a minority serving institution, where oftentimes, proper healthcare to treat a serious COVID case is not even an option. This is not okay. Several institutions across the nation have already required a vaccine mandate. We should be beyond this point. As Nevada, as Las Vegas, we have the unique position of being a center for tourism. However, as a university, our priority isn't tourism or convenience. It's the safety and well being of the student body. I strongly urge the board to vote and pass this agenda item, mandating vaccines and keeping every student, students like me, safe. “

All the best,  
Caren Yap

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## Caren Yap

Student Body President

She / Her / Hers - About [pronouns](#)

Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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*"See the world not as it is, but as it should be."*