## Joseph Filippi Jr.

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From: Kent Ervin <kent.ervin@nevadafacultyalliance.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 4:18 PM
To: Joseph P. Filippi <jpfilippi@health.nv.gov>
Subject: public comment

Dear Mr. Filippi: For your convenience in preparing minutes, a written version of my oral public comment is appended below. Thank you for your assistance. Kent Ervin

Kent Ervin, K-E-N-T E-R-V-I-N, for the record. Good afternoon, board members. I am the state President of the Nevada Faculty Alliance, the independent association of faculty at NSHE colleges and university. We work to empower faculty in our mission to help students succeed. We have submitted in writing a Petition for a Safe Fall Semester from members of the NSHE community. As of now, over 1100 faculty, staff, students, and family members from around the state have signed. I am speaking on their behalf. We strongly encourage the State Board of Health to take emergency action as soon as possible on vaccination of university and college students against spread of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Because you are the medical professionals, we are counting on you to consider the public health necessity of vaccinations among student and faculty who necessarily interact closely in living-learning environments and to act independently of state or NSHE political pressure. The delta variant will not wait for Spring 2022 registration. Over 680 colleges and university nationwide have mandated vaccinations and have found the medical, legal, and moral bases for doing so. To quote the petition, we respectfully request the Nevada State Board of Health to consider mandatory vaccinations for college and university students based on sound medical evidence and to issue emergency regulations giving guidance and authorization to NSHE. We need these actions now to prevent the delta variant from shutting down in-person instruction. Your emergency regulation action today shows that the Board of Health can act quickly. Please do that for us. Thank you.

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