

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