From: WordPress

To: Keri Nikolajewski, Angela Palmer, Winter Lipson

Subject: Public Comment for the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, November 30, 2023

Date: Thursday, November 30, 2023 10:31:44 AM

External Email:

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, November 30, 2023

Email: kent.ervin@nevadafacultyalliance.org

Name: Kent Ervin

Representing someone other than yourself?: Nevada Faculty Alliance

Meeting: Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, November 30, 2023

Agenda Item: Agenda #6, NSHE Financial Statements

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

Comment:

I would like to comment on agenda item 6, the overall NSHE financial statements. I'm sure the auditors have done their jobs, but I would like to provide some context.

As I commented at the Budget and Finance Committee this morning, the annual NSHE budget reports on the State Operating Budgets and Self-Supporting Budgets do NOT include a lot of the revenue and expenditures for which you see the total amounts in the Financial Statements. The functional and program categories of expenditures are not reported for gifts, for grants, or for any self-supporting accounts under \$250K.

The NSHE financial statement for FY2023 shows \$2.06 billion in total revenue for NSHE. The state operating budget revenue is about half, \$1.065 billion. The reported self-supporting budget revenue is \$600 million. That leaves \$375 million in FY2023 that isn't reported to the Regents as to how it was spent by function or program type. About \$100 million of that is probably student fees, although that's hard to determine from public reports.

The bottom line is that the audited financial statements are comprehensive but they are not intended to provide information about how funds are either restricted or designated and how funds are spent by function and program type.

The supporters of SJR7 complain about a lack of accountability at NSHE. Being more transparent about the overall budgets would be a step in the right direction. Without full reporting, it is hard to counter the opinion of some legislators that NSHE has plenty of money available.

I hope these comments are constructive. Thank you.