



# Nevada Farm Bureau Federation

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## Nevada Farm Bureau Testimony On SB 287 Senate Finance Committee – May 18, 2021

For the record, my name is Doug Busselman. I am the Executive Vice President of Nevada Farm Bureau. We are testifying today in opposition to SB 287.

It is my understanding that the focus of our testimony should be on the financial aspects for this bill and not on the policy.

Nevada Farm Bureau is very concerned over the ramifications that SB 287 could have on the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources – the entity which forms, in our opinion, the cornerstone to Nevada's Land Grant University. From our experience, CABNR is already pressed to meet the necessary needs for a full-fledged College of Agriculture.

If federal Land Grant University funding is going to be split with the other two entities (UNLV and DRI), we're extremely troubled by how that will impact CABNR. We're also not certain what either UNLV and DRI have in their plans to meet the necessary educational obligations for agricultural education programs.

We do appreciate the amendment to hold Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Research from being financially harmed by the provisions of the legislation, but we are not clear that same protection will cover CABNR.

We are very clear on what we believe that a Land Grant University is supposed to do within the National Land Grant College system, established under the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890. We respectfully request details on the types of programs and activities that UNLV and DRI will be doing to earn the designation that SB 287 considers applying to them. We encourage the committee to not move this legislation forward.