

Northern Nevada Public Health 2025 Legislative Principles and Priorities

Northern Nevada Public Health remains dedicated to advancing the health and well-being of our community by building on the successes and lessons of each legislative session. Our efforts are guided by principles that prioritize collaboration, equity, sustainability, and flexibility in public health policies and funding. For the 2025 legislative session, we aim to continue the momentum established in 2023, advocating for policies and funding mechanisms that ensure public health systems are prepared to meet current and future challenges.

Legislative Principles for 2025

- 1. Collaboration Across All Levels of Government:**
 - Strengthen partnerships between state, county, city, and health district authorities to provide consistent and effective services to Washoe County residents.
 - Build on the collaborative framework established in 2023 to ensure a unified approach to addressing public health challenges statewide.
- 2. Sustained Investment in Public Health:**
 - Advocate for the continuation and expansion of the **Public Health Improvement Fund (PHIF)** to ensure predictable, non-categorical funding for local health authorities.
 - Protect funding streams dedicated to public health infrastructure, workforce development, and foundational services.
- 3. Local Flexibility and Control:**
 - Support legislation that empowers local health boards to tailor programs and services to meet unique community needs.
 - Oppose any measures that undermine local decision-making authority or impose unfunded mandates on health districts.
- 4. Equity and Resilience in Public Health Systems:**
 - Address health disparities by prioritizing funding and policies that target the social determinants of health.
- 5. Preservation of Public Health Authority:**
 - Protect the statutory authority of health officers and boards of health to act decisively during public health emergencies.
 - Advocate for legislative protections against efforts to diminish the role and expertise of public health authorities.

Legislative Priorities for 2025

- **Sustained Public Health Improvement Fund (PHIF):**
 - Continue to advocate for sustainable state funding to support non-categorical investments in public health.
- **Environmental Health Protections: Equal Standards of Safety**

- Ensuring Consistency in Food Safety Standards: Advocate for equal and consistent public health standards across all food establishments, including food carts, restaurants, and temporary events.
 - Equity in Oversight: Promote fairness by holding all food establishments, regardless of size or type, to the same health and safety requirements.
 - Education and Compliance: Provide food operators with resources, training, and support to meet safety standards while fostering a culture of compliance within the industry.
 - **Public Health Workforce Development:**
 - Support initiatives to expand the public health workforce pipeline, emphasizing recruitment, retention, and diversity.
 - Collaborate with educational institutions to create training and certification programs tailored to the needs of Nevada’s public health sector.
 - **Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health:**
 - Support initiatives that address systemic health inequities, focusing on housing, food security, and access to care.
 - Prioritize funding and programs aimed at reducing disparities in health outcomes among Nevada’s diverse populations.
 - **Emergency Preparedness and Resilience**
 - Strengthen Nevada’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Advocate for streamlined and efficient approaches to delivering public health infrastructure, training, and resources.
 - Enhance Coordination: Foster improved communication and collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies to ensure timely responses to emergencies
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A Vision for 2025 and Beyond

As we look ahead, the Northern Nevada Public is committed to working collaboratively with partners across the state to advance policies that protect and enhance the health of all Nevadans. By building on the progress made in 2023, we aim to create a robust, equitable, and sustainable public health system that serves as a model for innovation and resilience.