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April 3, 2003

Shiela Leslie, Assemblywoman  
825 Humboldt Street  
Reno, Nevada 89509

Dear Ms. Leslie:

I am writing in behalf of the UNR student organization known as Las Americas. We are a recognized organization of Latino students whose mission it is to promote cultural awareness of the Latino community.

We write you today to offer this letter of support of AB382, the establishment of the UNR Latino Institute. As students currently attending UNR, having such an Institute would allow us to strengthen our cultural awareness as well as that of the university. It will also allow us to access information about the Latino community and advocate for its betterment. As a statewide Institute it will also allow us to coordinate efforts with the south on issues impacting our access to education and supporting things like financial aid and drop out prevention programs.

The Latino community is the fastest growing population and we are often left out of the discussion about how decisions will impact us. Please support AB382 as it will be an investment not only for our future but for the whole state of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Maritza Chavez, President  
UNR - Las Americas Student Organization

*Maisha [unclear]*  
*Yammy Leon*  
*Jimmy [unclear]*  
*Bob [unclear]*  
*[unclear]*  
*Conrad Fayard*  
*Bernard [unclear]*

*Martha Rodriguez*  
*Jessica Ramirez*

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ASSEMBLY EDUCATION  
DATE: 4/7/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT P  
SUBMITTED BY: MARITZA CHAVEZ