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March 3, 2025

The Honorable Robert Rivas Speaker of the Assembly 1021 O Street, Room 8330 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget 1021 O Street, Room 8230 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable David Alvarez Chair, Budget Subcommittee #3 1021 O Street, Suite 5320 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Mike McGuire President pro Tempore of the Senate 1021 O Street, Room 8518 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1021 O Street, Room 8620
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird Chair, Budget Subcommittee #1 1021 O Street, Room 8720 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Reject cuts to the University of California (UC) and the CA State University (CSU)

Dear Speaker Rivas, Pro Tem McGuire, Chair Gabriel, Chair Wiener, Chair Alvarez, and Chair Laird,

We respectfully request rejection of the Governor's proposed 7.95 percent budget reduction to the UC and CSU. We have grave concerns about the long term impact of these reductions to our higher education systems. The proposed cuts will result in a \$396.6 million ongoing reduction to the UC and a \$375.2 million ongoing reduction to the CSU. These reductions may jeopardize the progress on goals important to the Legislature and the Governor, including increasing California resident enrollment and ensuring student success.

Both UC and CSU play a critical role in helping to meet the state's workforce needs. Undercutting enrollment funding will lead to larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, program reductions, and less support staff, all of which will hinder students' efforts to graduate on time and weaken California's progress towards a highly educated and diverse workforce.

The cuts to UC and CSU are also more severe than the cuts to other large state agencies, which were cut on average by 3 percent. While other agencies were allowed to exclude direct services and local assistance from their cuts, UC and CSU are being cut on their direct services to

students. In addition, the higher education segments have limited reserves and are unable to cover the cuts from existing resources.

We have a responsibility to ensure that our higher education institutions continue to provide access and excellence for California's students. This benefits not only the students themselves, but California as a whole. The University of California and the California State University systems are pinnacle examples of public funds benefiting public good. We respectfully request rejection of the cuts to the UC and CSU. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Fong

Assembly District 49

Cottie Petrie-Norris Assembly District 73

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Jacqui Irwin

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Assembly District 42

Dr. Darshana Patel Assembly District 76

José Luis Solache, Jr. Assembly District 62

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Damon Connolly
Assembly District 12

Mike Gipson Assembly District 65

Stephanie Nguyen
Assembly District 10

Tom Umberg Senate District 34

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Assembly District 78

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Assembly District 69

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Buffy Wicks Assembly District 14

Al Muratsuchi Assembly District 66

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Monique Limón Senate District 21

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Assembly District 70

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Blanca Pacheco Assembly District 64

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Chris Rogers
Assembly District 2

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Laura Richardson Senate District 35

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