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March 12, 2013

The Honorable Richard D. Roth State Capitol, Room 4034 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 21 (Roth), as introduced December 3, 2012

Position: Support

Dear Senator Roth:

The University of California (UC) is very pleased to support SB 21, a bill introduced to appropriate \$15 million in new state funding from the General Fund to UC for the School of Medicine at the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

For more than 30 years, UCR has provided the first two years of medical education for students enrolled in the joint UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences. This history provided a strong foundation for development of a new, independent four-year medical school. In July 2008, UC's Board of Regents approved establishment of the UCR School of Medicine, paving the way for the first public medical school to be built in California in more than 40 years.

In October 2012, UCR received notification from the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) that the School of Medicine was granted preliminary accreditation. This much anticipated news means that UCR is now recruiting students for the charter class of 50 medical students, enrolling in August 2013. The School of Medicine has received more than 2,400 applications for this charter class.

UCR is developing a medical school with education, research, and public service programs envisioned with an explicit focus on improving the health of the people of California, with special attention to meeting the needs of the diverse and growing Inland Southern California region. The school is built on a distinctive community-based model – a partnership between the medical school and existing healthcare providers in the region to provide the clinical education platform. This model, and the curriculum of the school, is also responsive to the goals of the federal Affordable Care Act to improve access to primary care medicine and reduce overall costs. To date, the UCR campus has recruited Dr. G. Richard Olds as founding dean; established partnerships with regional hospitals and clinics for medical student rotations and residencies; and developed an interim 10-year

budget plan for the school. Current efforts are focused on securing the resources required for a full four-year curriculum and the enrollment growth appropriate for an accredited UC medical school and necessary to address the physician shortage. Notwithstanding the state's major budgetary challenges, launching and sustaining this school will provide an enduring resource for preparing future physicians for California's growing and aging population.

These ongoing core state funds would significantly contribute to UCR's efforts to expand and strengthen the foundation for the new school and to support mandatory costs associated with the new medical school. In fact, \$15 million in new state support is the amount UC has proposed for several years as part of the Regents budget to help fund the costs associated with transition from a two-year medical education program to a full four-year school. As you are likely aware, the LCME previously withheld preliminary accreditation based primarily on concerns about the state budget. During these challenging times, SB 21 provides a mechanism to allocate state resources as part of an ongoing investment for UCR's School of Medicine. This ongoing commitment will also provide a clear signal to the LCME regarding the state's need and long-range support for addressing California's health workforce needs through the contributions of a new medical school in Riverside.

On behalf of the University of California, the UCR School of Medicine, and the people who will benefit from the services of UCR's future physician graduates, we appreciate your leadership and support for this major effort. Please feel free to contact me at (510) 987-9071, or Angela Gilliard in our Sacramento office at (916) 445-9924, if you need additional information or assistance with this bill.

Sincerely,

John D. Stobo, MD Senior Vice President

In Malo

cc: Interim Chancellor Jane Conoley

Vice Chancellor G. Richard Olds

President Mark G. Yudof

Provost Aimée Dorr

Senior Vice President Daniel Dooley

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