



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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March 24, 2011

The Honorable Diane L. Harkey
Member of the State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2014
Sacramento, CA 95814

***RE: Assembly Bill 649 (Harkey) as introduced on February 16, 2011
Scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 29, 2011
Position: Support if Amended***

Dear Assembly Member Harkey:

I am writing to inform you that the University of California (UC) will support AB 649 if amended. AB 649 would grant priority admission and class registration to members or former members of the Armed Forces within 5 years of leaving active duty.

UC fully recognizes the sacrifices made by our veterans and works to provide these students with the tools and guidance necessary to achieve success at UC. To that end, UC's nine undergraduate campuses have implemented priority enrollment policies for veterans. While current law requests UC to offer priority enrollment to veterans within two years of leaving active duty, we are pleased to extend that offer of priority enrollment to veterans within five years of leaving active duty.

While the University supports providing priority enrollment to veterans, we do not offer priority admission to any student groups. The California Education Code currently states that it is legislative intent that priority consideration for admissions be granted to veterans and UC does provide that consideration to veterans. Currently, under the University's comprehensive review policy on admissions, veteran's service is taken into consideration when reviewing an applicant's qualifications. Please see our attached proposed amendment addressing this issue.

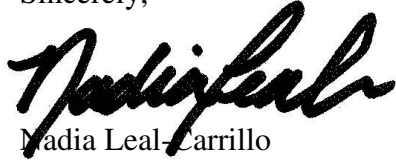
The Honorable Diane Harkey

Page 2

March 24, 2011

The University appreciates your consideration of our views. Should you have any questions about the University's position on this bill, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-9924.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadia Leal-Carrillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

Nadia Leal-Carrillo
Legislative Director

Attachment

cc: Chair and Members Assembly Higher Education Committee
President Mark G. Yudof
Provost and Executive Vice President Lawrence Pitts
Executive Vice President Nathan Brostrom
Senior Vice President Daniel Dooley
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez