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July 11, 2011

The Honorable Christine Kehoe, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95816

RE: AB 844 (Lara) as amended June 29, 2011
Scheduled for hearing on August 15, 2011 in the Senate Appropriations Committee
Position: Support

Dear Senator Kehoe:

I am writing to inform you that the University of California (UC) is pleased to support AB 844. AB 844 provides that any student, including a person without lawful immigration status, or a person who is exempt from nonresident tuition pursuant to Section 68130.5, may serve in any capacity in student government at the California State University or the California Community Colleges and receive any grant, scholarship, fee waiver, or reimbursement for expenses connected with that service to the full extent consistent with federal law. The bill also requests that the University of California comply with these provisions, as well.

By making AB 540 students eligible to serve in student government and receive aid in connection to that service, AB 844 would help place these students on a more equal footing with other students in similar situations and would enhance their access to all that the University experience offers, especially when serving in student government.

Through their hard work and perseverance, these students have earned the opportunity to attend UC and participate at all levels of University life. Their accomplishments should not be disregarded or their future jeopardized because of their legal status.

As always 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, with the first name "Nadia" being the most prominent part.

Nadia Leal-Carrillo
Legislative Director

cc: Assembly Member Ricardo Lara
Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
President Mark G. Yudof
Provost Lawrence Pitts
Executive Vice President Nathan Brostrom
Senior Vice President Daniel M. Dooley
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez