



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

DANIEL M. DOOLEY
Senior Vice President – External Relations

Office of State Governmental Relations
1130 K Street, Suite 340
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 445-9924
Steve Juarez, Associate Vice President and Director

June 26, 2012

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2032
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 970 (Fong), as amended June 25, 2012
Scheduled for Hearing in the Senate Education Committee on June 27, 2012
Revised Position: REMOVAL OF OPPOSITION

Dear Senator Lowenthal:

On behalf of the University of California (UC), I am pleased to inform you and members of the Senate Education Committee that the University is withdrawing its opposition to AB 970 (Fong) based on the most recent amendments adopted on June 25, 2012. The amendments that were adopted were the result of numerous meetings between the author, the sponsors and representatives of the University and the California State University that were convened to address issues raised about the impracticality of the bill's reporting, student consultation and tuition fee adoption provisions. While we have steadfastly maintained our commitment to consulting with students and to provide as much advance notice of impending tuition fee decisions as possible, two key principles that are currently part of the University's budget practices, we felt that the prior version of the bill would not allow the University to be appropriately responsive to prevailing fiscal conditions or to funding decisions enacted late in budget process. The University believes that the June 25th amended version represents a much more workable paradigm. For this reason, we are able to remove our opposition.

I would like to publicly recognize and applaud the efforts of the author, the author's staff, the sponsors, and staff from the Assembly Speaker's Office for their attention to the concerns raised by the University. As already stated, the author, staff and sponsors of the bill have participated in untold hours of negotiations and have been exceedingly fair and responsive in attempting to address our concerns. In closing, we look forward to maintaining our commitment to the issues of accountability, transparency and consultation with students on the adoption of tuition fees in the future. Moreover, we believe that all University stakeholders, including faculty and staff, should receive similar accommodation and that is UC's pledge. We believe that such an approach ensures that the University will engage in open and responsible decision making, even during very difficult fiscal circumstances.

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 that reads "Steve Juarez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Juarez".

Steve Juarez
Associate Vice President & Director
State Governmental Relations

cc: Vice Chair and Members, Senate Education Committee
Assembly Member Paul Fong
President Mark G. Yudof
Provost Lawrence Pitts
Executive Vice President Nathan Brostrom
Senior Vice President Daniel M. Dooley