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Steve Juarez, Associate Vice President and Director

August 6, 2015

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 340 (Weber), as amended July 8, 2015
Scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 17, 2015
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Lara,

The University of California is pleased to support AB 340. If passed, the bill would request the Regents of the University of California, and require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Trustees of the California State University, to each generate a report once every biennium of the legislative session pertaining to campus climate.


From the fall of 2012 through the spring of 2013, the University of California took the unprecedented step of surveying its faculty and other academic appointees, students, staff, trainees, and post-doctoral scholars about their experiences and perceptions of campus or workplace climate. More than 386,000 individuals were invited from the 10 UC campuses, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the University's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the UC Office of the President to participate in this study – making it the largest project of its kind in the nation.

This study is just one part of UC's ongoing efforts to foster a healthy and inclusive environment for all members of the University community. Each UC location is working to develop new initiatives or enhance existing efforts that will improve the working, living, and learning environments at the University of California. We are working to create and nurture—in every corner of the University—an ethos of respect for others and inclusion of all. We believe that these values form the essential bedrock on which to build a community that cherishes and benefits from robust, constructive discourse and daily interactions among all its members. UC believes that AB 340 will build upon our existing body of work and provide an opportunity for the segments to share their progress on this important issue.

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Thank you for your consideration of the University's views. Should you have any questions on the University's position, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-9924.

Sincerely,



Adrian Lopez
Interim Legislative Director

cc: Assembly Member Shirley Weber
Vice Chair and Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
President Janet Napolitano
Provost and Executive Vice President Aimée Dorr
Executive Vice President & CFO Nathan Brostrom
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