



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NELSON PEACOCK

Senior Vice President – Government Relations

Office of State Governmental Relations

1130 K Street, Suite 340

Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 445-9924

Steve Juarez, Associate Vice President and Director

March 31, 2016

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

Re: SB 906 (Beall), as introduced on January 25, 2016
Pending in Senate Appropriations Committee
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Lara:

The University of California (UC) is pleased to support SB 906 (Beall), which would revise the definition of foster youth and former foster youth to include any person in California whose dependency was established or continued by the court on or after the youth's 16th birthday and who is no older than 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year. The bill would request UC to extend priority registration for enrollment for foster youth or former foster youth indefinitely.

UC has consistently been supportive of efforts to assist foster youth and former foster youth in their transition to the University and has worked to provide this student population with the necessary tools and guidance to ensure a successful higher education experience.

Currently, all nine UC undergraduate campuses offer priority registration and other programs to help ensure the success of our student population of 1,587 foster youth and former foster youth. In addition to priority enrollment, campus programs to support this student population include priority access to eligible year-round housing, financial support, academic advising and career counseling, personal counseling, community engagement and assistance with planning transitions to both college and employment.

UC attempts to provide support for all of our students so that they may succeed in their academic pursuits. Priority enrollment is a function of each individual campus and is adopted at the campus level. Should SB 906 become law, the University of California Office of the President will strongly encourage each campus to continue this beneficial policy.

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Thank you for your continued commitment to higher education and for your consideration of the University's views. If you have any questions about our support position on SB 906, 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.

Nadia Leal-Carrillo
Legislative Director

cc: Senator Jim Beall
Vice Chair and Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
President Janet Napolitano
Executive Vice President and CFO Nathan Brostrom
Senior Vice President Nelson Peacock
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez