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# Assembly California Legislature



**JEFF GORELL**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEES**  
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SEA LEVEL RISE AND THE  
CALIFORNIA ECONOMY

April 10, 2014

The Honorable John A Perez, Speaker  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 219  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg, President pro Tempore  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Funding for California State Universities

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President,

We write to respectfully request a \$95 million increase over the Governor's current proposal for the California State University in the 2014-15 State Budget.

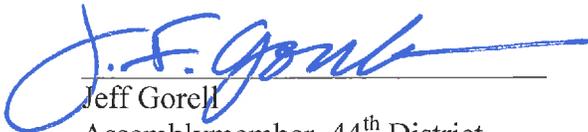
The recent trend of CSU campuses considering and adopting new "student success fees" to support faculty hiring, classroom improvements, and instruction programs contradicts the spirit and promise of Proposition 30. When voters passed Prop 30, they expected that the increase in taxes were needed to prevent tuition and fee hikes at our public universities. In light of this promise, it is critically important for this legislative body to ensure that our CSU system has adequate funding to enroll more students and to allow more students to graduate in a timely manner.

Due to the recent recession and years of funding cuts, overall enrollment numbers at CSU has declined significantly. Furthermore, only 16% of CSU students graduate in four years. As more students enroll at community colleges, the demand for access to CSU is expected to grow in the near future. In the 2014-15 State Budget, CSU needs additional funding to address these primary issues and avoid the need to consider a series of piecemeal student fees that further restrict access to low-income families. *For these reasons, it is important that the requested funding augmentation includes requirements that dollars are strictly allocated for increasing access and classroom availability.*

Numerous studies and reports evidence a lack of home-grown college graduates who can fill the state's high demand for workers in globally competitive industries in California. The growth of our state's economy is tied to the success of our students. This legislative body needs to provide

additional funding to allow the CSU system to provide more students the opportunity to receive the education they deserve. For these reasons, we strongly believe the CSU should be granted the \$95 million increase over the Governor's current proposal.

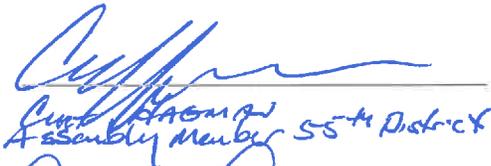
Sincerely,



Jeff Gorell  
Assemblymember, 44<sup>th</sup> District  
Vice-Chair, Assembly Budget Committee



Matt Dababneh  
Assemblymember, 45<sup>th</sup> District



Curt Hagman  
Assemblymember 55<sup>th</sup> District



Annie Conway AD26



Brian Maurin AD 77



Marie Waldron AD75



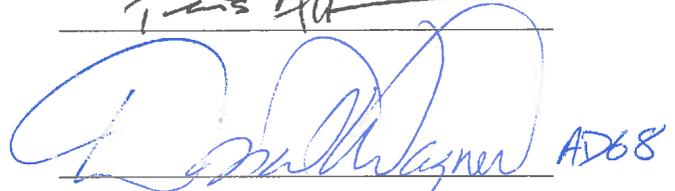
Krista Olson AD12



Frank Bigelow AD-5



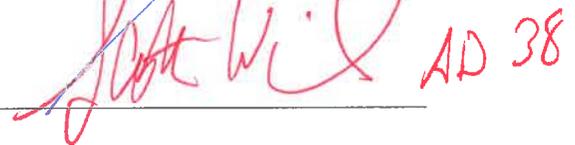
Travis Au



[unclear] AD68



Rocky Chang AD 76



[unclear] AD 38



[unclear] AD6