

AGENDA
ITEM

25




CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 16, 2025

TO: Mayor and City Council

APPROVED BY: Richard A. Daniels, Interim City Manager 

PREPARED BY: Richard A. Daniels, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Letter of Support Opposing Governor Newsom's Proposed Budget Cuts to the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) System.

=====

Recommendation:

Approval of Letter of Support Opposing Governor Newsom's Proposed Budget Cuts to the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) System.

Background:

California Governor Gavin Newsom has suggested a (7.95 %) permanent decrease in the CSU and UC systems. The budget proposal also outlines a delay in multi-year compact funding, postponing the ongoing \$252 million allocation for 2025-26 to 2027-28, and scheduling two separate one-time payments of \$252 million each for 2026-27 and 2027-28. CSU and UC leaders have cautioned that a budget cut of this kind would affect academics, student services, course availability, and its workforce. Increased class sizes and fewer course options could potentially hinder students from graduating on schedule. Moreover, the CSU and UC would probably forfeit the advancements achieved in boosting systemwide enrollment, improving graduation rates, meeting basic needs, and fairly compensating its faculty and staff. Reducing courses and extending time-to-degree would greatly hinder the growth required to address California's workforce demands.

Discussion and Analysis:

The City of Calexico is supporting opposition to Governor Newsom's Proposed Budget Cuts to the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) System. The resources allocated to the CSU and UC are not merely expenses but a meaningful investment in cultivating our state's future leaders, fostering stronger communities, a resilient democracy, and fueling California's diverse and highly skilled workforce.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Coordinated With:

None

Attachment(s):

- 1. Letter of Support.

ATTACHMENT NO. 1



City of Calexico

608 HEBER AVENUE

• CALEXICO, CA 92231

• (760) 768-2110

April 16, 2025

The Honorable Scott Weiner
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee Subcommittee
No. 1 on Education
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable David Alvarez
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget
Subcommittee No. 3 on Education
Finance
1021 O Street, Suite 5320
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Weiner, Chair Gabriel, Senator Laird, and Assemblymember Alvarez:

On behalf of the City of Calexico, I write to urge you to reject the Governor's proposed budget cuts of 7.95 percent each to the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) systems.

The CSU and UC systems are facing significant financial challenges resulting from the likely and forthcoming extensive decreases in federal and state funding. The Governor's January budget proposes an overall budget cut of approximately \$1.4 billion, of which CSU and UC's combined cut totals \$572 million or about 40 percent of the total state budget cut. It is disproportionate and inequitable to ask CSU and UC to take such a drastic cut on behalf of the entire state, especially while facing extreme uncertainty regarding federal funding.

The 7.95 percent cut amounts to \$29 million for San Diego State University (SDSU). Factoring in the proposed deferred funding for the Compact with the Governor amounts to an additional loss of \$14 million more resulting in a \$43 cumulative deficit.

These cuts will have significant consequences across CSU and UC, including reductions to enrollment, increased class sizes, lengthened time-to-degree, pausing of construction, sustained hiring freezes, and significant employee layoffs. This will also have substantial negative impacts on our regional economy.

San Diego State University is recognized as one of the top public research universities in the nation, with numerous undergraduate and graduate programs ranked in the top 10 nationally. Its nearly half a million alumni have played a vital role in driving the prosperity of the Imperial County region and the state of

California. Sustained funding for the CSU and UC systems is essential to securing continued success for our students and communities.

For these reasons, I urge you to avoid the proposed budget cuts. Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have questions, please contact our Interim City Manager Rick Daniels at (760) 886-1661

Sincerely,

Diana Nuricumbo, Mayor
City of Calexico

Cc: file