

California Legislature

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



March 12, 2007

Dr. Charles Reed
Chancellor
California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Chancellor Reed:

As members of the California State Legislature we believe one of the most critical challenges facing the California State University this year is the impending faculty strike. We are disappointed at reports that after over 20 months of bargaining there is still no contract agreement with the California Faculty Association.

As we know you are aware, CSU faculty salaries are much lower than faculty salaries at comparable universities, and the average salary for CSU tenure-track faculty is actually *lower* than the average salary of tenure-track faculty teaching at community colleges.

While you have argued that CSU campuses are struggling financially, you awarded your executives salary and benefit increases that average 23% over the last several years. Given your administration's willingness to entertain salary increases for executives, we urge you to accept the challenge of negotiating equitable increases for faculty as soon as possible and avoid any further delays.

A few years ago you signed a Compact funding agreement with the Governor, hailing it as a significant breakthrough to ensure CSU funding stability - an agreement that was reached without your ever notifying the legislature of these discussions. Prior to that, your administration ventured on a colossal information technology project - again, without the advice and oversight of the legislature - that was highly criticized in a state audit, for everything from its \$660 million costs to its inoperability and closed bidding process.

While we may not understand your reasons for such decisions, we view these as examples of misplaced priorities that give little appreciation for the circumstances of faculty and students in your system.

We, the undersigned members, urge you to settle this contract with your faculty. Your Compact agreement was signed with the understanding that it would provide sufficient funding for CSU campus needs, including the salaries of all its employees - not just executives. The CSU is a teaching institution, and you must respect and nurture this mission above all else.


Now is the time to settle your differences with the faculty, before a strike occurs and before we begin state budget hearings. We find a 20-month delay unacceptable. Given the number of critical challenges facing the CSU, we encourage you to prioritize your efforts in the next few weeks to focus on attending to the faculty's reasonable contract terms.

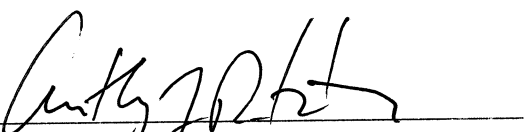
We await your reply.

Sincerely,



ASSEMBLYMEMBER ALBERTO TORRICO

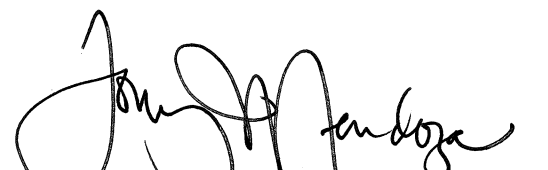

ASSEMBLYMEMBER MERVYN DYMALLY


ASSEMBLYMEMBER LORI SALDANA

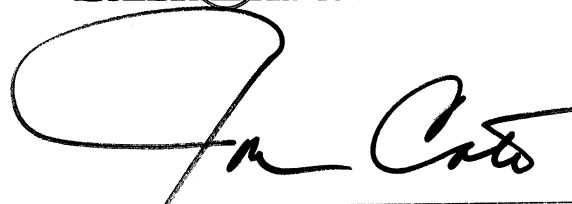

ASSEMBLYMEMBER ANTHONY PORTANTINO



SENATOR GLORIA ROMERO

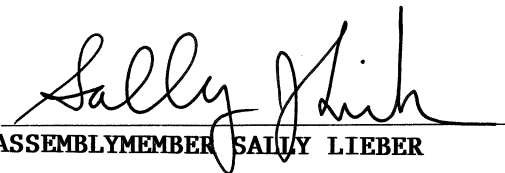

ASSEMBLYMEMBER LLOYD LEVINE

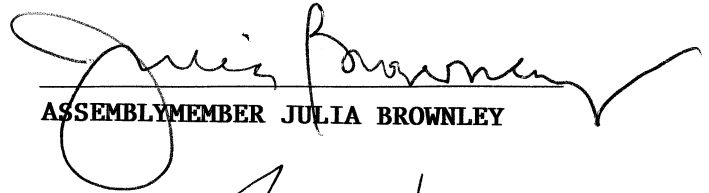

ASSEMBLYMEMBER TONY MENDOZA

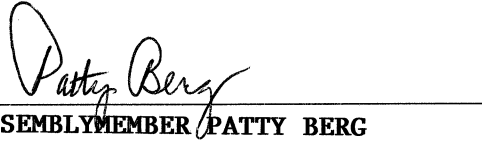

ASSEMBLYMEMBER KAREN BASS

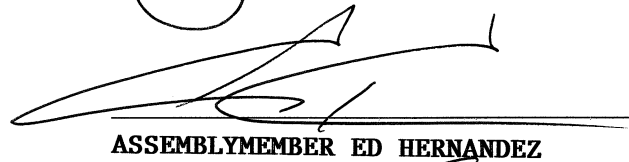

ASSEMBLYMEMBER JOE COTO

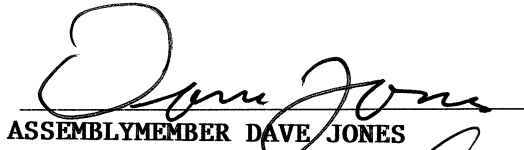

ASSEMBLYMEMBER SANDRE SWANSON

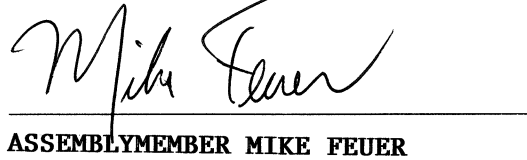

ASSEMBLYMEMBER SALLY LIEBER

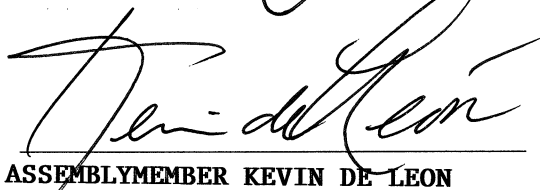

ASSEMBLYMEMBER JULIA BROWNLEY


ASSEMBLYMEMBER PATTY BERG


ASSEMBLYMEMBER ED HERNANDEZ


ASSEMBLYMEMBER DAVE JONES


ASSEMBLYMEMBER MIKE FEUER

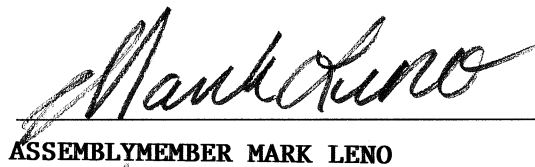

ASSEMBLYMEMBER KEVIN DE LEON


ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARK DESAULNIER

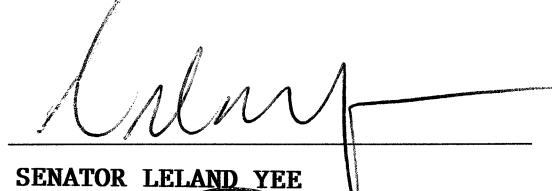

ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARY SALAS

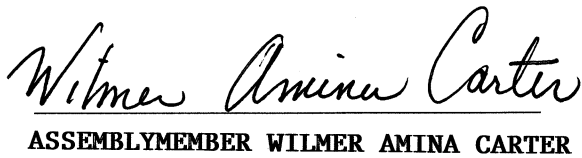

ASSEMBLYMEMBER MIKE ENG

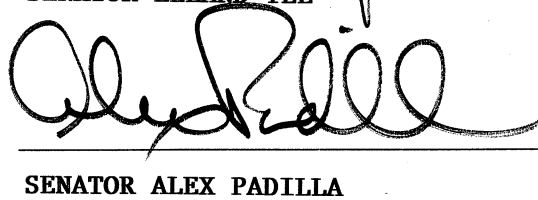

SENATOR DEAN FLOREZ


ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARK LENO

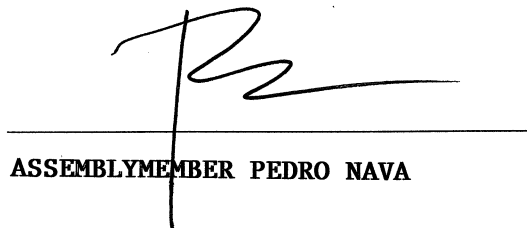

SENATOR GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD


SENATOR LELAND YEE


ASSEMBLYMEMBER WILMER AMINA CARTER


SENATOR ALEX PADILLA


ASSEMBLYMEMBER GENE MULLIN


ASSEMBLYMEMBER PEDRO NAVA