Each of the 1,570 empty seats represents 20 qualified students who were turned away from the California State University last year.

Chronic, inadequate funding and a disinvestment by the state means tens of thousands of fully eligible students are harmed each year when they lose a chance to pursue a college education.
The state's disinvestment from the California State University has been dramatic. Since 1985, the state has reduced funding per student by 40%, a reduction of $4,718 per student (real dollars).

During this period, the student body shifted from being predominantly white to highly diverse with nearly three-quarters of students identifying as students of color.
Both the Governor's budget proposal and the California State University Trustees' request fail California's students and invite another tuition increase.

Since 2000, CSU has raised student tuition by more than $4000, an increase of 302%

The total cost to attend the People's University has skyrocketed to over $25,000 per year while financial aid fails to keep up.
Race matters in budgetary decisions.

Today's high school and community college students are the most racially and ethnically diverse in the state's history. The California Faculty Association’s 2017 report, “Equity Interrupted,” shows that as this demographic shift has occurred, there was a simultaneous, systematic, and chronic reduction in state funding for the California State University.

The report quotes a long-time CSU professor who pointed out, “As the students got darker, the funding got lighter.”