



CITY of LAGUNA NIGUEL

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CITY COUNCIL

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Council Member Elaine Gennawey
Council Member Fred Minagar
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July 16, 2019

The Honorable Connie M. Leyva
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol Building, 4061
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to ACA 14

Dear Senator Leyva,

On behalf of the City of Laguna Niguel, I am writing to express our opposition to Assembly Constitutional Amendment 14, University of California: support services: equal employment opportunity standards, which would prevent the University of California campuses from entering into employment contracts for a wide variety of support and clinical services.

ACA 14 would require UC campuses to employ full-time employees for positions that have previously been contracted on an as-needed basis. The UC system estimates that the costs associated with the new employees would be an additional \$173 million annually. Additional financial burden placed upon our public universities in order to pay for new employees could result in vast increases in the debt and total cost that students face to receive a higher education. Attending college is an expensive endeavor and passing unneeded measures that would only result in a heavier burden is unconscionable. Allowing the UC system to maintain their practice of contracting for seasonal and short-term services will undoubtedly save millions of dollars each year, keeping costs down for students.

An unforeseen consequence of ACA 14 will be a decrease in attendance at University of California campuses due to inflated tuitions and fees. We ought to do all that we can as public officials to attract a diverse group of students in our schools. Increasing costs for these prospective students will do the opposite. This is not a measure that ought to even be considered while we are actively searching for ways to keep tuition and fees for current and prospective students as low as possible.

Laguna Niguel firmly opposes ACA 14 and encourages the Senate Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments, and State Senate and Assembly as a whole to do the same. Laguna Niguel believes that our public universities should be affordable, measures from the State Legislature should be reasonable, and all students should be afforded the opportunity to flourish right here in California.

Yours in service to others,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Mark Jennings". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J" and a horizontal line extending to the left.

John Mark Jennings
Mayor

cc: Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments
The Honorable Senator Patricia Bates
Assembly Member Bill Brough