

**SENATE RESOLUTION
S.R. W17-011**

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TITLE	Resolution of No Confidence on UC Regents who Voted to Raise the Cost of Education

WHEREAS, the University of California (“UC”) is a public institution of Higher Education which services over 210,000 undergraduate students, 61.9% of whom do not receive federal assistance in the form of the Pell Grant¹;

WHEREAS, the Public Mission of the UC, per Section 21.1 of the Bylaws of the Regents of the University of California (“the Regents”), “the responsibility of individual Regents is to serve as trustees for the people of the State of California and as stewards for the University of California, acting to govern the University as a public trust in fulfillment of its educational, research, and public service missions in the best interests of the people of California²;

WHEREAS, per Regents Policy 3301, Section 1, “the Regents reaffirms that the Associated Students on the several campuses of the University are official units of the University exercising authorities concerning student affairs by delegations from The Regents, the President, and the Chancellors³;

WHEREAS, the cost to attend the University of California, Riverside (“UCR”) in School Year (SY) 2017-2018 is projected to land at \$29,261 for undergraduate students at campus apartments, \$29,611 for undergraduate students living off-campus, and \$36,211 for students living within campus residence halls and Glen Mor⁴;

WHEREAS, the Regents have voted to raise in-state undergraduate tuition by 2.5% and the systemwide Student Services Fee by 5%, raising the total base cost of education for in-state undergrads from \$12,294 to \$12,630⁵;

¹ <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/fall-enrollment-glance>

² <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/bylaws/bl21.html#bl21.1>

³ <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/3301.html>

⁴ <http://financialaid.ucr.edu/ucr-cost/index.html>

⁵ <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/aar/janb.pdf>

WHEREAS, the Regents have also voted to raise the Nonresident Supplemental Tuition from \$26,682 to \$28,014 for out-of-state students⁶;

WHEREAS, UC President Janet Napolitano, whose record includes the deportations of roughly 400,000 people annually during her 4-year tenure as U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security⁷, once proclaimed in March 2015 that “[the Regents] don’t have to listen to this crap,” referring to student protesters denouncing tuition hikes at a Regents meeting⁸;

WHEREAS, Regent William De La Peña was found to have breached UC’s ethics rules by brokering an acquisition deal between the University of California, Los Angeles and his ophthalmology clinics per an investigation conducted under the UC’s Whistleblower Policy⁹;

WHEREAS, Regent Gareth Elliott works as a lobbyist for Sacramento Advocates Inc.¹⁰, a firm whose clients include The Kraft Heinz Company, The Microsoft Corporation, Western Union, AstraZeneca, and other corporate interests¹¹;

WHEREAS, Regent Sherry Lansing is a Lifetime Director of the National Board of Teach for America, an organization which has worked to undermine public education by displacing credentialed teachers, boosting the political influence of charter schools, and weakening teachers’ unions through the recruitment and hiring of under-qualified prospective educators¹²;

WHEREAS, Regent Monica Lozano sits on the Board of Directors of Bank of America¹³, a corporate giant which has exploited and continues to exploit prison labor¹⁴ and has had a history of encouraging their employees to foreclose on homeowners¹⁵;

WHEREAS, Regent Hadi Makarechian, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Makar Properties, which focuses on the development and construction of “McMansions¹⁶”, and Republican mega-donor¹⁷, was

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/07/12/obama-napolitano-homeland-security-immigration/2512447/>

⁸ <http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2015/03/18/napolitano-says-we-dont-have-to-listen-to-this-crap-as-students-protest-potential-uc-tuition-hikes/>

⁹ <https://www.propublica.org/documents/item/2820777-De-La-Pena.html>

¹⁰ <http://www.sacramentoadvocates.com/elliott.html>

¹¹ <http://www.sacramentoadvocates.com/client.htm>

¹² http://www.huffingtonpost.com/t-jameson-brewer/teach-for-america-lies-da_b_9195600.html

¹³ <http://investor.bankofamerica.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=71595&p=irol-govboard#fbid=zoSrsd3b5tZ>

¹⁴ <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2012/04/sweatshop-labor-prisoners-penal-labor>

¹⁵ <https://www.propublica.org/article/bank-of-america-lied-to-homeowners-and-rewarded-foreclosures>

¹⁶ <http://www.californiascapitol.com/2010/12/is-capital-pacific-holding-helping-to-buy-11-state-buildings/>

¹⁷ <http://archive.dailyocal.org/article.php?id=105886>

instrumental in contracting out the construction of U.S. military bases in Iran during Shah rule as he lived, in his words, “[regally] in a way that is difficult for native-born Americans to really understand”¹⁸;

WHEREAS, Regent Norman Pattiz has been called to resign by ASUCR¹⁹ for his history of sexual harassment²⁰;

WHEREAS, Regent Charlene Zettel has a history of opposing the strengthening of automotive lemon laws that protect consumers²¹ as well as renters’ rights bills²² during her time as a Republican member of the California Assembly;

WHEREAS, the above Regents and the remaining eight who also voted to approve the tuition hike shall be referred to henceforth as “the Regents voting in the affirmative;”

WHEREAS, California Governor Edmund “Jerry” Brown has proposed to gradually phase out the only financial aid program for middle class students, a program which has provided 190,000 scholarships in the last three years for students in need within the UC and California State University System²³;

WHEREAS, this hike on education costs has tastelessly coincided with the confirmation of U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, a Cabinet official whose views on higher education are largely unknown, but also whose views on K-12 education may strongly suggest a privatization agenda²⁴;

WHEREAS, the agenda of the Regents voting in the affirmative to further privatize what is supposed to be a public institution of higher education is neither conducive to the UC’s goal of expanding diversity, nor is it sustainable with respect to the retention of its ever-expanding student body;

WHEREAS, the Regents voting in the affirmative have, through their consistent breaches in ethical conduct, reckless behavior, and, in some cases, their disregard for the integrity of human life, clearly and unambiguously displayed their innate inability to make ethical and responsible decisions, especially with regard to the cost of education.

¹⁸ <http://www.alternet.org/world/how-violent-extremists-hijacked-london-based-counter-extremism-think-tank>

¹⁹ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vjNJa8k_Jbe- oMzO6RCri2BabB6Z5NdonpYeONlyIE/edit

²⁰ <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-uc-regents-sexual-harassment-20161109-story.html>

²¹ <http://articles.latimes.com/2004/mar/17/local/me-consumer17>

²² <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sdut-committee-approves-zettel-for-consumer-affairs-2004aug12-story.html>

²³ <http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-middle-class-students-adv2016-story.html>

²⁴ <http://www.chronicle.com/article/What-Does-Betsy-DeVos-Have-in/238514>

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, with these past indiscretions considered, that the Associated Students of UC Riverside (ASUCR) expresses no confidence in the Regents voting in the affirmative;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, ASUCR urges any Regent voting in the affirmative to file a motion to reconsider the vote to raise undergraduate tuition and the system-wide Student Services Fee for the next scheduled Regents meeting March 15th -16th, 2017²⁵;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that regardless of their opinions on the outlining of said indiscretions throughout this document, which are heavily cited from reputable news sources and the public record, the Regents must act in the best public interests of the UC, per Section 21.1 of their bylaws;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that for ASUCR to regain trust in the Regents, the Regents themselves must undergo structural reforms for the purpose of fostering a more ethical and public-friendly method of governing which include, but are not limited to:

- a. shortening the lengths of their terms from twelve years to four years
- b. requiring ten years of classroom involvement in the field of education
- c. requiring for Regents to resign from any private Board of Directors or corporate boards before they assume their seats
- d. establishing a livable stipend so that Regents will no longer remain incentivized to maintain their involvement within the corporate world;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that ASUCR urges Chancellor Wilcox, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Jim Sandoval, and UCR Foundation Board of Trustees Chair Darin Anderson to explore possibilities with regard to establishing a fixed contribution from the UCR Foundation's annual funds to provide students most financially at risk a safety net at the campus level;

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that ASUCR demands the Regents to commit themselves to not only reduce the cost of our education, but to also work towards a path to a tuition-free UC.

INTRODUCED ON - February 16, 2017

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - February 16, 2017

VOTE COUNT - 4-0-0

SENATE APPROVED EXCEPT SUBSECTION D ON - February 22, 2017

VOTE COUNT - 11-0-0

SENATE APPROVED SUBSECTION D ON - February 22, 2017

VOTE COUNT - 8-3-0

²⁵ <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/meetings/index.html>