



July 24, 2023

The Honorable Steven Glazer

Senate Elections & Constitutional Amendments Committee
State Capitol, Room 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Glazer,

The South Orange County Economic Coalition (SOCEC) is the premier voice of business in southern Orange County. Since 1969, we have worked to promote a strong economic climate in the region, which creates \$25 billion in economic activity annually.

Today, we write to you and the Senate Elections & Constitutional Amendments Committee voicing our strong opposition to ACA 6 and the regulations it would impose on University of California (UC) schools.

Our organization supports government and business working together to create a reasonable, fair, cost-effective, technically-sound, streamlined and simplified regulatory environment. This does not describe ACA 6, which delegates authority away from the UC's to the State Personnel Board.

Rather, ACA 6 is an example of overbroad government encroachment and forcing compliance with new State orders, ones that have not been applied consistently and fairly at all levels. We take issue with the notion that UC schools have been uniquely singled out and would, under this new legislation, be treated differently than all other public and private sector universities. Why, for example, are private universities like USC and Stanford afforded separate treatment from ACA 6, while the UC schools remain the only educational entities subject to its impositions?

Furthermore, ACA 6 would subject UC's to new provisions relating to contracting out for services. UC schools already have robust policies in place for contracting out and have negotiated in good faith all year with the State on other legislative measures regarding contracting. We oppose any new restrictions and unnecessary regulations that are likely to create inefficiencies and stifle the hiring process.

Our position on any new regulation is that there should be a requirement that the benefits of any new regulation be shown to outweigh the full economic and compliance costs, as evidenced by a

thorough analysis that is based on sound science and economics and includes independent peer review. As of now, no such analysis exists.

For reference, UC schools presently employ around 24,800 academic staff members and around 167,300 administrative staff members. We urge the Committee not to approve this or any proposal while the true financial impact of UC's having to now adhere to public sector employment laws for tens of thousands of workers, including student employees and researchers, remains yet unknown.

We see no reason the issues ACA 6 aims to address cannot be resolved either via a standard legislative approach (non-ACA) or via a collective bargaining agreement. Both solutions would uphold UC's ability to negotiate.

In summation, we once more urge you and the Committee to vote **NO** on ACA 6.

We appreciate your time and consideration. If we can provide any additional information or if you have questions about this request, please do not hesitate to contact Executive Director Victoria Hernandez via email at Victoria@economiccoalition.com or by telephone at (949) 440-1027.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hernandez
Executive Director

Kelley Lee
Chairwoman

Michael Balsamo
Past Chairman

Adam Wood
Advocacy Committee Chair

