

FIND YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES AT:
<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>

Dear **[enter your state representative's name here]**,

I write as a proud Californian and a **[student, parent, employee, alum]** who believes in the value of public education, and who is concerned about the state legislature's steady withdrawal of support for our public colleges and universities over the past several decades.

In 1960, Governor Pat Brown developed what would prove to be one of the most important, forward-thinking educational policies in the history of California: the Master Plan for Higher Education. This plan, which guaranteed every Californian an affordable education (at the community college, CSU, or UC level), provided the foundation for what is generally recognized to be one of the finest systems of public higher education the world has ever known. Due to the strength of our public school system, California became a beacon of innovation in industry, technology, the arts, and many other domains. Thanks to these developments, California has also emerged as one of the world's largest and most productive economies.

But in recent decades, the Master Plan for Higher Education—and its underlying covenant of access to higher education for all Californians—has been all-but-abandoned as the state legislature has steadily dis-invested in the community college, CSU, and UC systems. This withdrawal of state support has coincided with an unprecedented increase in the number of students of all ages who have sought admission to our colleges and universities.

I trust that you, too, believe that our public system of higher education is at the core of what makes California great. I trust that you, too, understand that the future of California depends upon the availability of higher education for all Californians.

I call upon you to stand up for the California public. I call upon you to re-commit yourself to the importance of public education by restoring the state's investment in our world-renowned colleges and universities.

Sincerely,

[enter your name and address here]