

Agenda Item No.

B-5

DATE SUBMITTED

04/10/2025

SUBMITTED BY

City Manager

DATE ACTION REQUIRED

4/16/20

COUNCIL ACTION ()
 PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED ()
 RESOLUTION ()
 ORDINANCE 1ST READING ()
 ORDINANCE 2ND READING ()
 CITY CLERK'S INITIALS ()

IMPERIAL CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT:

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

1. Consent Mayor Tucker to sign the Letter of Opposition to Proposed CSU/SDSU Budget Cuts

DEPARTMENT INVOLVED:

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The proposed 7.95% budget cuts to the CSU and UC systems - totaling \$572 million or 40% of the state's overall reductions - would disproportionately impact higher education at a time of significant financial uncertainty. For San Diego State University alone, this would mean a \$43 million deficit impacting the local campus as well.

FISCAL IMPACT:
No fiscal impact.

FINANCE
INITIALS

JMS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DEPT. INITIALS

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

approve

CITY
MANAGER'S
INITIALS

JMS

MOTION:

SECONDED:

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSENT:

APPROVED ()

DISAPPROVED ()

REFERRED TO:

REJECTED ()

DEFERRED ()



April 16, 2025

The Honorable Scott Weiner
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee Subcommittee No. 1 on
Education
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable David Alvarez
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget
Subcommittee No. 3 on Education
Finance
1021 O Street, Suite 5320
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Weiner, Chair Gabriel, Senator Laird, and Assemblymember Alvarez:

On behalf of the City of Imperial, I write to urge you to reject the Governor's proposed budget cuts of 7.95 percent each to the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC) systems.

The CSU and UC systems are facing significant financial challenges resulting from the likely and forthcoming extensive decreases in federal and state funding. The Governor's January budget proposes an overall budget cut of approximately \$1.4 billion, of which CSU and UC's combined cut totals \$572 million or about 40 percent of the total state budget cut. It is disproportionate and inequitable to ask CSU and UC to take such a drastic cut on behalf of the entire state, especially while facing extreme uncertainty regarding federal funding.

The 7.95 percent cut amounts to \$29 million for San Diego State University (SDSU). Factoring in the proposed deferred funding for the Compact with the Governor amounts to an additional loss of \$14 million more resulting in a \$43 cumulative deficit.

These cuts will have significant consequences across CSU and UC, including reductions to enrollment, increased class sizes, lengthened time-to-degree, pausing of construction, sustained

CITY COUNCIL
James Tucker – Mayor
Ida Obeso-Martinez – Mayor Pro-Tem
Stacy Mendoza – Councilmember
Katie Burnworth – Councilmember
Robert Amparano – Councilmember

CITY CLERK
Kristina M. Shields

CITY MANAGER
Dennis H. Morita

CITY ATTORNEY
Katherine Turner

hiring freezes, and significant employee layoffs. This will also have substantial negative impacts on our regional economy.

San Diego State University is recognized as one of the top public research universities in the nation, with numerous undergraduate and graduate programs ranked in the top 10 nationally. Its nearly half a million alumni have played a vital role in driving the prosperity of the Imperial County region and the state of California. Sustained funding for the CSU and UC systems is essential to secure continued success for our students and communities.

For these reasons, I urge you to avoid the proposed budget cuts. Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have questions, please contact our City Manager Dennis Morita at (760) 355-4371.

Sincerely,

James Tucker
Mayor, City of Imperial