

July 10, 2007

Dr. John D. Welty
President, California State University, Fresno
5241 N. Maple Ave.
Fresno CA 93740

Dear President Welty:

I have significant concerns arising from the recent jury verdict determining that the California State University, Fresno, under your direction, engaged in illegal discriminatory acts against certain former female employees of Fresno State University.

While I understand that this matter may be pending an appeal, it goes without saying that such actions are patently unacceptable when performed by anyone, but are especially offensive when conducted by a public official acting at a public institution.

To add injury to insult, the result of your discriminatory actions is to cause nearly six million dollars, funds that are much needed by Fresno State for educational purposes, to be diverted in order to justly compensate the victim of these offensive actions. I submit that the California State University, as well as the taxpayers of California, deserve a much more prudent use of these vital funds.

As a result of these unconscionable acts, I am asking Senator Scott, Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, to convene that body to conduct a thorough review of these recent actions in order to determine appropriate legislative measures that may be implemented to prevent such actions in the future. Furthermore, I believe it is vital that the Senate provide such oversight, in a public forum, to ensure accountability of public officials and public monies.

I look forward to your anticipated cooperation in this oversight hearing.

Sincerely,

DEAN FLOREZ
Senator, Sixteenth District

Cc: Senator Jack Scott, Chair, Senate Education Committee