

University of California Student Association
San Joaquin Valley Representation on the University of California Board of Regents

Background: The Board of Regents is made up of 26 members, 18 of which are Governor-appointed members. This Board has full power over governing of ten University of California campuses distributed throughout the state, including UC Merced, located in the San Joaquin Valley. The San Joaquin Valley is disproportionately underrepresented on the Board of Regents. When the last Regent representing this large region of California, Fred Ruiz, ended his term in 2016, he gave a list of other possible candidates from the valley. None of the recommended candidates were appointed. This is the first time in decades that not one of the Governor's appointed representatives are San Joaquin Valley residents.

Purpose: The purpose of this resolution is to urge the Governor to pursue immediate appointment of a representative from the San Joaquin Valley on the University of California Board of Regents.

1. **Whereas:** There are 18 appointed representatives, none of which reside in or have strong ties to the San Joaquin Valley or UC Merced.
2. **Whereas:** There is a growing University of California in Merced, which has 7,967 students enrolled both undergraduate and graduate, as well as 1,537 staff and faculty members. By 2020, there will be 10,000 students.
3. **Whereas:** There are multiple representatives for other areas; for example, 13 are from southern California.
4. **Whereas:** There are five seats on the board available.
5. **Whereas:** The San Joaquin Valley was selected as the site of the tenth University of California campus in part to serve a historically underserved region by improving educational attainment rates, and to spur economic development through research and community service in one of the most economically challenged regions of the country.
6. **Whereas:** Former UC Regent Fred ¹Ruiz said. "We need to have somebody from the Central Valley to be a voice to the Regents."

¹<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/political-notebook/article91114877.html>

Be it Enacted: The University of California Student Association advocates to the Governor, state legislature, and UC Board of Regents to immediately pursue appointment of at least one representative that currently resides in the San Joaquin Valley by doing the following

1. Sending a copy of this resolution with a letter of University of California Student Association intent to advocate for this appointment to the Governor.
2. Have each association submit this resolution to their individual legislative bodies.