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## UCSA Defends Out of State Students In Letter to State Legislators

Sacramento, CA – The University of California Student Association (UCSA) delivered a letter authored by **UCSA President Caroline Siegel Singh** to state legislators Wednesday expressing opposition to proposals to increase tuition for nonresident students and to place a cap on the nonresident student enrollment at 10 percent per UC campus. The UC Board of Regents are set to vote next week on increasing undergraduate nonresident supplemental tuition for 2019-2010. The letter, which was made public on the UCSA website, includes student testimonies speaking to the invaluable contributions of nonresidents to the UC.

Link to the full letter: <https://ucsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Statement-Against-Nonresident-Student-Enrollment-Cap.pdf>

In the letter, **Joshua Avila, UCLA Class of 2021**, shared: "International and nonresident students are my peers and my friends. They bring such rich perspectives...If the university would limit their ability to come and get an education with me, then I would lose out on a core part of my experience here, both academically and personally."

**Karina Arzate-Arenivaz, UCLA Class of 2020**, stated: "As a transfer student from a small and less diverse community, coming to a diverse campus that represented out of state, international, and undocumented students [is] vital. I come from a largely Hispanic community; I understood the undocumented demographic personally from a young age...I can only reap the benefits of this diversity if the UC system embraces this population and not by reducing it."

College affordability is core to UCSA's advocacy. Currently, non-residents contribute a total of \$120 million towards need-based financial aid through the UC grant, therefore subsidizing approximately 100,000 California residents. Every nonresident student, excluding those with AB540 status, pays three times as much as their resident peers, which is used to offer financial aid support to two other California residents in order to offset the total cost of attendance at the UC. UCSA's letter argues that it has become abundantly clear that the UC's financial model would collapse without nonresident funds, rendering a UC education for many California residents vastly unaffordable, and that this must be addressed in order to fairly provide educational opportunity to nonresident and resident student alike.

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**About the UC Student Association:** The University of California Student Association is the official voice of 275,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from all ten UC campuses. It is our mission to advocate on behalf of current and future students for the accessibility, affordability, and quality of the University of California system.



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