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November 7, 2017

CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing, on behalf of the University of California, to urge you and your colleagues to secure needed relief from the sequestration caps for non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs for FY 2018-2019 as Congress negotiates the final Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget and appropriations agreements. In addition, the University urges you to provide robust funding for programs of importance to UC that will advance scientific and technological innovation, promote unparalleled educational opportunities for a new generation of Californians, and facilitate the University's commitment to providing exceptional health care for Californians.

The University recognizes that defense programs have also been constrained by sequestration required under the Budget Control Act of 2011. As with the 2013 and 2015 agreements, UC urges Congress to provide parity in sequestration relief for both NDD and defense programs before the New Year.

The federal government is a key partner in support of UC's core missions. Federal funds account for more than 50 percent of UC's total research awards, and UC educates more low-income and first-generation college students than any other research university in the nation – with 38 percent of undergraduates receiving Pell Grants. The federal government supports UC's commitment to training world-class health professionals by helping fund the nation's largest health sciences instruction program, including contributing to the training of 5,000 resident physicians annually. UC's [FY 2018 appropriations priorities](#) reflect this vital partnership.

Ensuring robust and sustained funding for NDD programs will help UC continue to be a global leader in education and research innovation, and a powerful economic engine for the state – in scientific research, education, and training; in new startups, industries, and job creation; and in public health, veterans' services, environmental protection, public safety, security, and infrastructure. In all these areas and more,

California Congressional Delegation

Page 2

November 7, 2017

UC values the opportunities made possible through our partnership with the federal government, and takes the responsibilities seriously.

Thank you for your continued support for the University of California. If you have any questions, or if we can provide any assistance, please contact me or Interim Associate Vice President for Federal Governmental Relations Chris Harrington. He can be reached at (202) 974-6314 or by email at Chris.Harrington@ucdc.edu.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Napolitano". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet Napolitano
President

cc: Interim Associate Vice President Chris Harrington