



CAL MARITIME

FACT SHEET

Proposed State Budget Funding Cuts and the Impact at Cal Maritime

AT CAL MARITIME:

- While exact figures for Cal Maritime are not yet known, a 10 percent budget cut would mean a loss of over \$2 million to our current budget. This would affect every aspect of the campus from limits on enrollment, to larger class sizes, less student support and services, and potentially higher fees. State-wide, the CSU estimates that the proposed cuts would reduce system access by 10,000 students, limiting enrollment to 2007/08 levels.
- Cal Maritime makes a direct contribution to the California economy, with thousands of our graduates providing their skills and knowledge in such vital fields as trade and transportation, engineering, business and government policy. They work on more than just ships -- they design, build, and operate a wide range of systems crucial to all Californians... including power-plants, water distribution networks, and manufacturing and production facilities and are involved in supply-chain and port, vessel and terminal security.
- Recent studies have identified a critical need to upgrade the nation's infrastructure - its roads, ports, terminals, railways and airports -- over the next several decades. This is especially crucial in California which handles over 40% of the nation's international trade. At the same time, the governor has called on the state's universities to help educate more engineers to meet growing shortages of such skilled personnel in California. Cal Maritime was recently cited by *U.S. News & World Report* as having one of the top undergraduate engineering programs in the western U.S. Cutting our budget now would negatively impact our ability to help address this important need for years to come.
- Cal Maritime's annual budget of over \$20 million translates to a nearly \$100 million contribution to the area economy. We employ over 200 faculty and staff who live and work in the area, a third of our student body live off campus and all make major contributions to the region's economy and tax base.

SYSTEMWIDE:

- The Governor's proposed cuts would reduce funding to the California State University by a total of \$386.1 million. This reduction includes a direct cut of \$312.9 million and a failure to fund \$73.2 million necessary to avoid raising student fees by 10 percent for the 2008-09 academic year.
- The proposed budget reduction – which comes in addition to \$522 million in funding cuts between 2002 and 2005 – means that CSU will be unable to provide access to 10,000 qualified students next year. All CSU campuses have closed enrollment for first time freshmen as of March 1.
- Considered the “economic engine” of California, the CSU returns \$4.41 to the California economy for every \$1.00 invested by the state. In addition, the CSU plays a major role in the state's workforce in the areas of engineering, nursing, teaching, agriculture, business, public administration, and technology.
- It graduates 90,000 students each year, including 87 percent of education graduates, 64 percent of nurses, 65 percent of business professionals, 82 percent of in public administration, and more than half of the state's graduates in agriculture-related fields. As an example of the need, it is estimated that California will need 47,000 additional nurses by 2010 just to keep up with demand.
- At the CSU's current rate of economic return, the proposed budget cuts to CSU would remove more than \$1 billion from the state's economy as California leaders grapple with an ongoing budget deficit. The cuts would mean larger class sizes, less student support, and fewer course sections, and for many, longer times to graduation due to less frequent availability of required classes.
- The negative impact on student access would fall disproportionately on students from underrepresented communities, erasing recent gains which the CSU has made in this area. For 2008, freshman applications to CSU for Latinos are up by 21 percent and African Americans by 11 percent over previous years.

WHAT CAN I DO?

- **Contact Your Local State Representative and Senator:** Enter your zip code at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html> to locate the name and mailing address of your own Representative and Senator in Sacramento.
- **Send Them a Letter in Your Own Words:** Nothing has a more powerful impact with a legislator than letters, written in your words. Let them know you are one of their constituents. You don't have to be lengthy. Use a few of the facts here and make it personal. Tell them how these cuts will impact you as a student, faculty or staff member, or the parent of an enrolled or applying cadet. Your message, from the heart, gets far better results than mailing a pre-printed letter or card. It takes a few minutes of your time, but if enough of us all take action, the results can be very powerful.
- **Talk to Your Families, Friends and Associates:** It is easy for outsiders to develop broad-stroke (and often erroneous) impressions of institutions like higher education, but you work and study here and you know how devastating a \$2 million cut would be to this campus. Your knowledge and influence can help others join the cause. Emphasize how much the CSU contributes to California and how important its work is to the future of the state....and to them. Encourage them to contact their legislators as well.
- **Write a Letter to the Editor:** Take the letter you prepared for your legislative representatives and with just a little tweaking, it makes a great "Letter to the Editor" of your hometown newspaper.
- **Use the "Alliance for CSU" Website as an Education Resource:** The *Alliance for the CSU* (www.alliancefortheesu.org) brings together everyone who cares about the future of our state University system: Students, Faculty, Staff, Administrators, Organized Labor, Parents and Families, Community Groups, Alumni, Religious Groups, Businesses, Veterans...and many more. At the website you will find additional ways you can help. You can volunteer for phone-bank efforts to reach legislators, and even print out an Alliance sign to display, showing others that you are part of and support the Alliance and its efforts.

- A weakened CSU hurts everyone.
- A strong CSU is part of the long-term solution
- Working Together We Can Make
Change Happen!!!