

Dear COPE Committee Member,

On behalf of AFSCME, we're asking your immediate assistance in stopping a call to eliminate collective bargaining rights for public employees right here in California. David Crane, Gov. Schwarzenegger's hatchet-man on pensions and other issues, was appointed to the University of California Board of Regents on Arnold's last day in office. Last week Crane wrote an Op Ed **calling for the end of collective bargaining for public employees, JUST LIKE IN WISCONSIN!**

WE NEED TO STOP THIS ASAP BEFORE IT SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE STATE!

Please send out the Get Active Alert (see below) to your network, where we are asking members to call Senate Pro Tem Steinberg and ask him to schedule a confirmation hearing for David Crane ASAP, so the Senate can vote down his confirmation, and prevent him from serving on this extremely important Board.



Tell Sacramento: "Protect Collective Bargaining Rights for CA Public Employees! Reject the Confirmation of David Crane to The UC Board of Regents!"

UC Regent designate David Crane is taking cues from Wisconsin Gov. Walker by calling to end collective bargaining for California's teachers, nurses, fire fighters and other public workers, as seen in his recent [SF Chronicle op-ed](#). He makes a subtle distinction between those with statutory civil service protections and those without. But civil service laws do not provide a voice at work for public employees through which we are able to effectively advocate for our patients, students, and the public we serve daily. Nor do these laws allow us to speak out against executive greed or fight to protect the wages and benefits our families depend on.

In response, [Sen. Leland Yee is leading the charge to stop Crane's confirmation](#) and protect the vital services public employees provide. Last Friday, hundreds of UC workers, community members and other public employees outraged at Crane's attack on working families, rallied in support of all employees' -- *public, private, with or without civil service protections* -- right to a voice on the job but we need to make sure Sacramento hears us too!

[Tell Senate President pro-Tempore Darrell Steinberg: Don't let Crane silence workers' voices! Take action to stop Crane's confirmation and protect the vital services provided in our communities by public employees!](#)

Crane is a multi-millionaire investor and a far cry from representative of the average Californian as required of Regents by the state constitution. Formerly, Crane served as a high level aide to Gov. Schwarzenegger advising him on matters from pension reform to the privatization of state services. Gov. Schwarzenegger appointed Crane to the UC system governing Board of Regents for a 12 year term during his final days in office.

As UC executives contemplate layoffs, course reductions and turning away qualified students and thousands of UC service workers struggle to make ends meet, we need a Regent who has a vision to get UC back on track and represent everyday Californians.

Last month, your calls and emails successfully moved key legislators to take action to protect the lowest wage workers at UC. We need your support again. This is our moment to put the brakes on the path UC executives have us headed down that leaves students, patients, workers and taxpayers picking up the tab-- starting with stopping Crane's confirmation.

We cannot allow Crane to sit on the Board of Regents for even one more day-- the Senate must reject his confirmation before the next Regents' meeting and protect California from his dangerous attacks. [Call or email Sen. Steinberg today asking him to reject Crane's confirmation!](#)

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