

Notice of Intent to Circulate Petition

Proponents' Statement of Reasons

Notice is hereby given by the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the for the County of Fresno purpose of creating the Fresno State Improvement Zone. A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

California State University, Fresno is the "Pride of the Valley." It permeates every facet of our lives from healthcare, farming and engineering to policing, business, teaching, arts and athletics. Nearly everyone in Fresno County knows a California State University, Fresno graduate who credits their success in life to their rigorous academic preparation.

With majors in 71 bachelor's, 48 master's and three doctoral subject areas, the University is nationally recognized for the quality of education provided to students. Of 235,000 alumni, 80% stay in the region, making California State University, Fresno's impact direct and palpable. What's more, California State University, Fresno alumni hold prominent positions in every state in the nation and across the globe.

California State University, Fresno continues to prioritize equity and greater student access to high-quality education, all while ensuring that tuition and fees are affordable. Today, California State University, Fresno serves approximately 25,000 students. Unfortunately, the levels of state-allocated general fund and private support are insufficient to maintain and grow California State University, Fresno to meet the demands and opportunities of our global economy. Given the critical role California State University, Fresno plays in economic innovation and social mobility, now is the time for Fresno County voters to empower present and future generations of leaders by investing in California State University, Fresno and approving this measure. It is an investment in our future. It will empower the region with a world-class university to meet the shifting demands of the 21st century and keeps student fees affordable.

This measure will provide California State University, Fresno with the funding to:

- Keep our tax dollars local and require public disclosure of all spending
- Repair and modernize academic buildings that were constructed decades ago to create classrooms and laboratories with modern learning environments
- Provide safe drinking water to students, faculty, staff and visitors
- Remove asbestos, lead paint and mold from older campus buildings
- Expand access to career and educational programs in nursing and upgrade classrooms and laboratories fill the shortage of qualified nurses we experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Expand career and educational programs in criminology to improve public safety
- Expand access to career and educational programs in agriculture and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)
- Replace outdated fire, life safety, security and public safety facilities
- Improve video security infrastructure and lighting for student safety
- Provide scholarships so local low-income students can be assured access to a college education
- Ensure all California State University, Fresno facilities are ADA accessible for people with disabilities

California State University, Fresno is an essential resource to provide students with the training, knowledge and skills which result in high-paying jobs, improving quality of life throughout the community. Studies show that every \$1 invested in the CSU system provides a return of almost \$30 in jobs and economic growth.

This measure includes tough fiscal accountability. It creates a Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure that all revenues are used for purposes authorized by you, the voters. The Committee will hold public meetings and publish annual audit reports. The investments we make in California State University, Fresno students today pay dividends for our entire community tomorrow and beyond. Join us in becoming the architects of our future by supporting the Fresno State Improvement Zone Measure.

s/Richard F. Spencer, [REDACTED]

s/Terry Bradley, [REDACTED]

s/Marcus P. Johnson, [REDACTED]

s/Dora Westerlund, [REDACTED]