



**Chinese University Alumni Association Alliance of Southern California
(CUAAASC)**

SUBJECT: CUAAASC Stand to Oppose California Proposition 16

The Board of the Chinese University Alumni Association Alliance of Southern California (CUAAASC), representing 63-member alumni associations and over 50,000 alumni in Southern California, has voted to take a strong stand in opposition to California Proposition 16. This proposition is proposed to entirely repeal Prop 209 - the equal protection clause in the California State Constitution and unfairly legalize preferential treatment and discrimination based on race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

California's prosperity depends on hard work of Californians based upon merit and a fair and competitive environment. Prop. 16 will damage the positive nature of competition in our state. As such, we strongly oppose this political agenda to divide Californians into racial and ethnic enclaves, which will further damage the quality of education; economic competitiveness and the prosperity future of California. If Prop.16 were to pass and repeal Prop. 209, an applicant's race would be a direct factor in accessing public jobs, schools and contracts, regardless of merit.

As a result, less-qualified candidates would be accepted with the aim of increasing diversity, which would impact both more-qualified, rejected candidates and less-qualified, accepted candidates. In particular, the Asian-American community that has been consistently performing well in academics would face losing disproportionately from Prop. 16. Our children will be unfairly labeled as "over-represented" in higher education regardless of merit. Their academic excellence will be ignored and their accomplishments will be minimized. Such action would be a blow to their extraordinary hard work and sacrifice.

CUAAASC pledges to oppose Prop. 16 until it is rewritten to be fair based on merit. We will support any efforts from other social sectors to stop Prop. 16. We call upon all concerned alumni to stand up and side with us to oppose Prop. 16, which is unfair and discriminatory, particularly toward hard working Asian-Americans in higher education and other related areas.

DATED: July 31, 2020

Board of CUAAASC