



California Federation of Teachers
American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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Governor Brown spoke at UCLA Rally for Prop 30

Los Angeles — California Governor Jerry Brown spoke at a noon rally on Tuesday, October 16, in UCLA's Bruin Plaza on behalf of Proposition 30, the only measure on the November 6 ballot that will prevent further cuts to education.

Speaking to an enthusiastic crowd of mostly students at noon, the governor said, "Our public colleges and universities are a pathway to the California Dream and ensure that we have the creative talent to succeed in an increasingly complex world. Join me in saying YES to Prop. 30 so we can stop the cuts, stop the tuition hikes and invest in a strong economy for the next generation."

Other speakers at the rally included students, a campus worker, and the president of the California Federation of Teachers, Joshua Pechthalt. Pechthalt said, "Passing Prop. 30 is the first step in getting California back on track, investing in the opportunity represented by schools for kids and families. We are asking the wealthy to pay their fair share so we can restore the cuts to education, prevent tuition increases, and give our children the shot at the future they deserve."

Prop 30 will ask families making more than \$500,000 to pay 1 – 3 % more in state income taxes for seven years, and increase the state sales tax by one quarter of one percent for four years, to help restore cuts to education and services and prevent further tuition increases at UC and CSU. Close to 90% of the revenues generated by Prop 30 will come from the wealthiest Californians.

Lana Habib El-Farra, External Vice President of the Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC), said, "In just my two years at UCLA, I have seen classes grow larger, resources cut, and tuition raised like never before. Proposition 30 is crucial for not only current students, but for future students of California. We cannot afford to always be afraid of another tuition increase. We cannot afford to always be worried that we won't graduate in time because of fewer class options. We need a better future, and Proposition 30 is a step in the right direction."

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Liz Friedman, President of Bruin Democrats, said, “This is not a single-party issue. This is a student issue. This proposition affects everyone. It is not just Democrats who will get hit with a 20.3% tuition increase. We are all in this together: Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and everyone in between. We are all in this together and we need to come together as Bruins to help pass Prop 30. This is my 4th year at UCLA and I have seen far too many fee increases.”

Richard Jones, a UCLA library assistant and representative of IBT Local 2010, told the crowd, “As recently as the 1970s, California's public schools were reputed to be excellent. Today, that reputation no longer stands. Instead, there is widespread concern that California's schools are no longer performing as well as they did previously or as well as schools in other states. Prop 30 will provide funding to our schools that is badly needed.”

The UCLA event was part of a statewide UC “Day of Action” for Prop 30, and the first of a series of higher education events at which Governor Brown will be speaking.

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