

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DAVID PIERPONT GARDNER
President

WILLIAM R. FRAZER
Senior Vice President—
Academic Affairs

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

November 7, 1985

CHANCELLORS

Dear Colleagues:

On September 16, Governor Deukmejian signed into law a bill asking the University "to develop policies and procedures to ensure that each campus of the University, in administering any test or examination, shall permit any student who is eligible to undergo the test or examination to do so, without penalty, at a time when that activity would not violate the student's religious creed." The law goes on to state that the requirement will not apply when administering the test at an alternate time would create an undue hardship which cannot be avoided for the institution.

The law is consistent with past practice at the University and with constitutional guarantees in that we might well burden a student's right to the free exercise of religion if we were not to make some reasonable efforts to accommodate students having bona fide religious conflicts with scheduled examinations. I attach a copy of an opinion by General Counsel discussing this matter.

The Legislature has requested a report by July 1, 1986 on the actions the University has taken to implement the law. I would therefore appreciate it if you would coordinate with appropriate faculty and staff and send me by May 10 a summary of the action you have taken in response to the law and copies of the policies and procedures you have issued. If you or your staff have any questions regarding the Legislation, please call University Dean Ad Brugger at (415) 642-0508.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W.R. Frazer".

William R. Frazer

Attachment

cc: President Gardner
University Dean Brugger
Academic Council Chair Caserio
Assistant Vice President Cox
Assistant Vice President Moore
Executive Assistant Copeland