BILL NUMBER: SB 330

VET0ED DATE: 09/30/2010

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 330 without my signature.

While I am a firm believer in providing openness and transparency when it involves public entities and public funding, this bill inappropriately places private auxiliary organizations that receive private funds, under the provisions of the California Public Records Act. The focus of our attention should be given to greater transparency of how the University of California and California State University systems spend the public funds from taxpayers or students. Instead, this bill would require disclosure of private donors, those generous alumni whose giving, especially in times of decreasing state funding, is helping keep our public universities the best in the world.

While the bill attempts to provide a veil of protection for donors requesting anonymity, as crafted, it will not provide sufficient protection for many who rightfully deserve a level of privacy as part of their giving. Often times, these generous private citizen donors do not want to be in the glare of publicity, and I cannot support a bill that makes it more difficult for our public universities to raise private funds to maintain the quality educational experience our students deserve, and parents expect, when they send their children to the University of California and California State University systems.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger