



April 10, 2026

The Honorable Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O St., Suite 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1141 (Wahab) – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Umberg:

Existing law provides many government contract procurement protections that guard against self-dealing and financial gain by decision-makers. The University of California (UC) mandates a zero-tolerance policy toward self-dealing and enforces internal policies preventing personal gain from university contracts. Yet, Senate Bill (SB) 1141 would impose new contract procurement provisions that would prohibit UC from renewing contracts essential to the daily operation of its hospitals and delivery of patient care.

That's why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of nearly 400 hospitals and health systems, opposes SB 1141 (Wahab, D-Silicon Valley), which would ban contracting with any entity at which a UC executive (or their direct report) serves on a board, advisory board, or committee. Unlike other conflict laws, this would apply even to unpaid voluntary service — and provides for a 10-year contracting ban for any business entity found in violation of the new and expansive prohibitions.

UC faculty and administrators are frequently recruited for their expertise to serve on technical advisory boards. These roles ensure that UC's business partners develop tools that meet the needs of the UC community. Under SB 1141, a vendor would be barred from all UC business solely because a university expert provided expert guidance.

Lastly, SB 1141 would place enforcement in the hands of any taxpayer who could bring a civil action and collect fees and costs — even if that individual never received care, services, or stepped foot into a UC facility. Such enforcement mechanisms would invite frivolous claims resulting in needless litigation, drain coveted financial resources, and drive-up costs for care.

SB 1141 is an unnecessary measure that would disrupt UC's medical and instructional operations significantly and to the detriment of the health care workers, patients, families, and communities served.

For these reasons, CHA requests your “NO” vote on SB 1141.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Scott', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathryn Scott
Senior Vice President, State Relations and Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Aisha Wahab
The Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Amanda Mattson, Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus