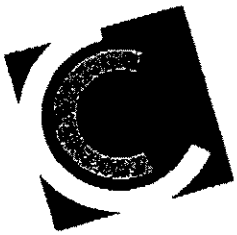

COSUMNES
RIVER COLLEGE

June 10, 2008

VIA FACSIMILE: (916) 322-6440

Chairman Ross Johnson
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: June 12, 2008 Agenda Item #12P
Prenotice Discussion of Amendments to Regulation 18946.4

Dear Chairman Johnson:

I write on behalf of the Cosumnes River College Foundation regarding proposed amendments to Regulation 18946.4. We urge the Fair Political Practices Commission to reject the proposed elimination of the "no value rule" that applies 501(c)(3) fundraising events.

The Cosumnes River College Foundation is an organization dedicated to provide philanthropic support to Cosumnes River College. The goal is to attract private giving for the purposes of student scholarships and campus-based capital outlay projects. Located in south Sacramento, the college serves an ethnically, socioeconomically and linguistically diverse student population of 14,000 students, most of whom are first-generation college attendees and English-language learners.

Through our various fundraising activities, our Foundation is able to attract individual and corporate support to provide much needed student support that bridges the gap in student financial aid and for a host of other campus initiatives, including support for our health-related programs, architecture and construction technology, distance education and student scholarships.

Attendance by public officials at our fundraisers helps our organization to accomplish its goals by providing the opportunity to raise money, educating others regarding our Foundation's and college's goals and activities, and networking with the government and private sector leaders. Our Foundation would be negatively impacted if our fundraising event had less support from public officials due to concerns regarding potential disclosure, gift limit, and conflict of interest issues resulting from the proposed changes to Regulation 18946.4.

The Cosumnes River College Foundation strongly urges you to reject the proposed changes to Regulation 18946.4 that would eliminate the current "no value" rule for 501(c)(3) charities.

Very truly yours,

Francisco C. Rodriguez, PhD
College President and Ex-Oficio Member of the Cosumnes River College Foundation Board

c: Commissioner Ray Remy
Commissioner A. Eugene Huguenin, Jr.
Commissioner Robert Leidigh
Commissioner Timothy A. Hodson
Scott Hallabrin, General Counsel
William J. Lenkeit, Senior Commission Counsel