

**Assembly Constitutional Amendment**

**No. 24**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Nestande and Portantino**  
(Principal coauthors: Senators Ashburn and Yee)

May 26, 2009

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Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 24—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by amending, repealing, and adding Section 9 of Article IX thereof, relating to the University of California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACA 24, as introduced, Nestande. University of California.

Existing provisions of the California Constitution provide that the University of California constitutes a public trust and requires the university to be administered by the Regents of the University of California, a corporation in the form of a board, with full powers of organization and government, subject to legislative control only for specified purposes. These provisions require that corporation to have all powers necessary or convenient for the effective administration of its trust.

This measure would, on January 1, 2011, repeal the constitutional provisions relating to the university and the regents and would require the university and the regents to be continued in existence subject to legislative control as may be provided by statute. The measure would require the Legislature to enact legislation to implement these provisions.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

1     *Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That the  
2 Legislature of the State of California at its 2009–10 Regular  
3 Session commencing on the first day of December 2008, two-thirds  
4 of the membership of each house concurring, hereby proposes to  
5 the people of the State of California, that the Constitution of the  
6 State be amended as follows:

7     First—That Section 9 of Article IX thereof is amended to read:

8     SEC. 9. (a) The University of California shall constitute a  
9 public trust, to be administered by the existing corporation known  
10 as “The Regents of the University of California,” with full powers  
11 of organization and government, subject only to ~~such that~~ *that*  
12 legislative control as may be necessary to ~~insure~~ *ensure* the security  
13 of its funds and compliance with the terms of the endowments of  
14 the university and ~~such~~ competitive bidding procedures as may be  
15 made applicable to the university by statute for the letting of  
16 construction contracts, sales of real property, and purchasing of  
17 materials, goods, and services. ~~Said~~ *The* corporation shall be in  
18 form a board composed of seven ex officio members, which shall  
19 be: the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the  
20 Assembly, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the president  
21 and the vice president of the alumni association of the university  
22 and the acting president of the university, and 18 appointive  
23 members appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate,  
24 a majority of the membership concurring; ~~provided, however that~~  
25 ~~the present appointive members shall hold office until the~~  
26 ~~expiration of their present terms.~~

27     (b) The terms of the members appointed prior to November 5,  
28 1974, shall be 16 years; the terms of two appointive members to  
29 expire as heretofore on March ~~1st~~ *1* of every even-numbered  
30 calendar year, and two members shall be appointed for terms  
31 commencing on March 1, 1976, and on March 1 of each year  
32 thereafter; provided that no such appointments shall be made for  
33 terms to commence on March 1, 1979, or on March 1 of each  
34 fourth year thereafter, to the end that no appointment to the regents  
35 for a newly commencing term shall be made during the first year  
36 of any gubernatorial term of office. The terms of the members  
37 appointed for terms commencing on and after March 1, 1976, shall  
38 be 12 years. ~~During the period of transition until the time when~~  
39 ~~the appointive membership is comprised exclusively of persons~~  
40 ~~serving for terms of 12 years, the total number of appointive~~

1 ~~members may exceed the numbers specified in the preceeding~~  
2 ~~paragraph.~~

3 In case of any vacancy, the term of office of the appointee to fill  
4 such vacancy, who shall be appointed by the Governor and  
5 approved by the Senate, a majority of the membership concurring,  
6 shall be for the balance of the term for which ~~such~~ *that* vacancy  
7 exists.

8 (c) The members of the board may, in their discretion, following  
9 procedures established by them and after consultation with  
10 representatives of faculty and students of the university, including  
11 appropriate officers of the academic senate and student  
12 governments, appoint to the board either or both of the following  
13 persons as members with all rights of participation: a member of  
14 the faculty at a campus of the university or of another institution  
15 of higher education; a person enrolled as a student at a campus of  
16 the university for each regular academic term during his *or her*  
17 service as a member of the board. Any person so appointed shall  
18 serve for not less than one year commencing on July 1.

19 (d) Regents shall be able persons broadly reflective of the  
20 economic, cultural, and social diversity of the State, including  
21 ethnic minorities and women. However, it is not intended that  
22 formulas or specific ratios be applied in the selection of regents.

23 (e) In the selection of the ~~Regents~~ *regents*, the Governor shall  
24 consult an advisory committee composed as follows: The Speaker  
25 of the Assembly and two public members appointed by the  
26 Speaker, the President ~~Pro pro~~ Tempore of the Senate and two  
27 public members appointed by ~~the Rules Committee~~ of the Senate  
28 *Committee on Rules*, two public members appointed by the  
29 Governor, the ~~chairman~~ *chairperson* of the regents of the  
30 university, an alumnus of the university chosen by the alumni  
31 association of the university, a student of the university chosen by  
32 the Council of Student Body Presidents, and a member of the  
33 faculty of the university chosen by the academic senate of the  
34 university. Public members shall serve for four years, except that  
35 one each of the initially appointed members selected by the Speaker  
36 of the Assembly, the President ~~Pro pro~~ Tempore of the Senate,  
37 and the Governor shall be appointed to serve for two years; student,  
38 alumni, and faculty members shall serve for one year and may not  
39 be regents of the university at the time of their service on the  
40 advisory committee.

1 (f) The Regents of the University of California shall be vested  
2 with the legal title and the management and disposition of the  
3 property of the university and of property held for its benefit and  
4 shall have the power to take and hold, either by purchase or by  
5 donation, or gift, testamentary or otherwise, or in any other manner,  
6 without restriction, all real and personal property for the benefit  
7 of the university or incidentally to its conduct; ~~provided, however,~~  
8 ~~that. However,~~ sales of university real property shall be subject to  
9 ~~such~~ competitive bidding procedures as may be provided by statute.  
10 ~~Said~~ The corporation shall also have all the powers necessary or  
11 convenient for the effective administration of its trust, including  
12 the power to sue and to be sued, to use a seal, and to delegate to  
13 its committees or to the faculty of the university, or to others, ~~such~~  
14 ~~the~~ authority or functions as it may deem wise. The ~~Regents~~ *regents*  
15 shall receive all funds derived from the sale of lands pursuant to  
16 the act of Congress of July 2, 1862, and any subsequent acts  
17 amendatory thereof. The university shall be entirely independent  
18 of all political or sectarian influence and kept free therefrom in  
19 the appointment of its regents and in the administration of its  
20 affairs, and no person shall be debarred admission to any  
21 department of the university on account of race, religion, ethnic  
22 heritage, or sex.

23 (g) Meetings of the Regents of the University of California shall  
24 be public, with exceptions and notice requirements as may be  
25 provided by statute.

26 (h) *This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2011,*  
27 *and as of that date is repealed.*

28 Second—That Section 9 is added to Article IX thereof, to read:

29 SEC. 9. (a) The University of California is hereby continued  
30 in existence in the state government, and is subject to legislative  
31 control as may be provided by statute.

32 (b) The University of California shall be administered by the  
33 existing corporation known as “The Regents of the University of  
34 California,” which is hereby continued in existence in the state  
35 government, and is subject to legislative control as may be provided  
36 by statute.

37 (c) The Legislature shall enact legislation to implement this  
38 section.

- 1 (d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2011.

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