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10/4/2025

Annalise Langford  
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Oakland, CA 94607

**In support of, SB-38, The Agriculture Innovation Act**

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
State of California, 1021 Street  
9th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

**Dear Governor Newsom,**

The University of California writes in support of SB-38 with no amendemnt , The Agriculture Innovation Act, Introduced by The Honorable Senator Mehan Dahle, which aims to provide funding to economically disenfranchised farmers, with a program backed by research from the University of California to provide up to date science, research, and technology to be provided for farmers as applicable. Farmers are first eligible to apply for a grant of \$20K per year, extended to a lifetime of \$60k per lifetime. As per the bill's requirements half of all funds shall go to smaller farmers specified as 350 acres or less, another 20 percent shall be allocated to socially disadvantaged farmers listed as African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics, Asian Americans, & Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

The UC as an institution recognizes the central and key role our farmers in California play in our state's economy, food security, and sustainability. Our farmers have and continue to be the backbone of California and the United States. Even while facing economic hardship and social marginalization, our smaller and minority group farmers continue to contribute and support our flourishing agricultural system, they too deserve equal access and representation on par with larger farms/ ranching organizations which is what the Agriculture Innovation Program will achieve if implemented. As well as equitable resources, research and funding the program will in turn strengthen our economy and agricultural system by representing our disadvantaged and marginalized farmers and ranchers.

For these reasons, The University of California confirms our support, respectfully and humbly urges your support for SB-38, and appreciates your consideration.

Sincerely,

Annalise Langford  
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