

Senator Judith Zaffirini
Chair



Senator Dan Patrick, Vice Chair
Senator Kip Abernethy
Senator Robert Duncan
Senator Royce West

Senate Higher Education Committee

March 8, 2010

Ron Blatchley
Chair, Texas State University System Board of Regents
R. Blatchley Management, BMB Homes
3019 Hickory Ridge Circle
Bryan, TX 77807

Dear Chair Blatchley:

As Chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, I am honored and privileged to recommend enthusiastically Senator Jeff Wentworth of Bexar County to be the next Chancellor of the Texas State University System.

Having known Senator Wentworth since 1982 and worked with him for almost 20 years, I would miss him greatly in the Texas Senate, particularly because of his stellar leadership, impressive accomplishments, and effective bipartisanship. Despite my selfish perspective, I recommend this valued friend and colleague strongly only because of my passion for higher education and my confidence that his appointment would benefit the Texas State University System greatly, especially at this time.

Next session will be unusually challenging, not only because of the State Comptroller's bleak financial prediction for our budget, but also because it will be driven by a once-a-decade redistricting session based on new federal census results. Accordingly, you will need a Chancellor who is known and trusted by legislative leaders who hold the keys to passing your system's legislative program and appropriations.

My colleagues in the Texas Legislature and I know and trust Jeff Wentworth as much as we respect and admire him. Because of his honesty and integrity, we rely on his word and have confidence in his assessments and proposals. Because of years of toiling side-by-side with him in the trenches, we are comfortable with him as a member and leader of our extended family. Equally important, we enjoy interacting with Senator Wentworth because of his charm and charisma,

Letter to Ron Blatchley
March 8, 2010
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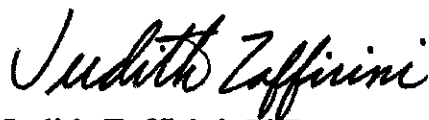
unwavering discipline and dedication, and respectful and friendly demeanor. What's more, his notably talented and affable wife, Karla, and their two delightful sons, Jason and Matthew, reflect his love and devotion. They would be a wonderful "first family" for your system.

Review Senator Wentworth's resume, and you will marvel at his career-long record of paradigm-shifting contributions to higher education in Texas. Legislators know him, for example, as the "Father of TEXAS Grants" because he was the first to propose this legendary financial aid program, and he spurred our investment of more than \$1 billion in it. He led the charge to change the name of Southwest Texas State University in his Senate district to Texas State University-San Marcos, and he authored legislation to add a tenth non-voting student member to each Board of Regents in the state.

I can think of no one more uniquely prepared than Jeff Wentworth to serve as your next Chancellor, especially because of his experience as a former member of your Board of Regents and his success in the Texas Legislature, particularly in passing higher education legislation. The strength of my recommendation reflects my strong confidence that he would make you proud and enhance your success.

My prayer is that the Lord will bless you for your good work and inspire you to agree with my perspective and embrace Senator Jeff Wentworth as the next Chancellor of the Texas State University System.

Very truly yours,



Judith Zaffirini, PhD

JZ/rm

PC: Members, Texas State University System Board of Regents



Edward E. Whitacre, Jr.
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

March 2, 2010

Mr. Ron Blatchley, Chairman
Mr. Charlie Amato, Vice Chairman
Mr. Kevin Lilly
Mr. Ron Lynn Mitchell
Mr. David Montagne
Mrs. Trisha S. Pollard
Michael J. Truncale, Esquire
Mrs. Donna N. Williams
Mr. Greg Wilkinson
Mr. William C. Patterson

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The task you are currently undertaking to select a new Chancellor for the Texas State University System is an important one that will impact higher education in Texas for years to come.

As a former Chairman of a Board of Regents which selected a Chancellor, I want to share my experience with you in hope that it might help you with your decision.

At Texas Tech, we opted to go outside the traditional academic channels and look at candidates who not only had respectable academic records, but who were skillful business managers, effective fundraisers, and able to navigate in the difficult legislative arena, which is so crucial for the funding of university systems. The results are well documented with higher academic standings, record fundraising, and increased national recognition.

I have known Jeff Wentworth for a number of years. He has been an effective member of both Houses of the Texas legislature. He has had Congressional staff experience in Washington, D.C. He was a pioneer in securing new financial assistance for thousands of Texas students through the Texas Grant Program. Of historical significance, he led the initiative to rename your largest component --- Texas State University.

I believe Jeff possesses all the qualifications to make an effective Chancellor for your system. I hope you will give him favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

LooperReed
& McGraw
ATTORNEYS

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March 5, 2010

Via Email: rwl@academic-search.com

Robert W. Lawless, PhD
Senior Consultant
Academic Search, Inc.

I am writing on behalf of Jeff Wentworth, Texas State Senator, a candidate for Chancellor of the Texas State University System.

Senator Wentworth has a deep commitment to higher education. He enjoys a long standing involvement with the Texas State University System. Jeff is a recognized leader in bringing diverse groups together and a dedicated public servant. I have known Senator Jeff Wentworth personally since our days at Texas A&M University. As Texas Secretary of State, I worked with him through the State appropriations process, and over the years in various capacities witnessed his capabilities in leadership and resolving problems.

Senator's Wentworth integrity and leadership will serve the Texas State University System well. As Texas further defines and refines the role of its various Higher Education Systems and Universities, Jeff Wentworth will lead the University's growth and recognition to new plateaus. His knowledge and recognized leadership in the legislative process will prove invaluable to the Texas State University System.

Jeff Wentworth has my highest and unqualified recommendation as Chancellor of the Texas State University System. He is the right person and at the right time for the Texas State University System and the State of Texas.

With my best wishes and kindest personal regards,

Very truly yours,


Jack M. Rains



The Senate of
The State of Texas

SENATOR RODNEY ELLIS
District 13

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
1999 - 2000

COMMITTEES:

Chair, Government Organization
Criminal Justice
Transportation & Homeland Security
State Affairs

March 9, 2010

Robert J. Lawless, Ph.D.
Senior Consultant
Academic Search
1825 K Street NW Suite 705
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Lawless:

I am writing this letter in support of State Senator Jeff Wentworth's application to be named Chancellor of the Texas State University System (TSUS). I have known Jeff for the past 20 years, and he is a person of great intelligence, strong character and outstanding leadership.

Jeff has long-standing involvement with the Texas State University System, previously serving on its Board of Regents. He also has capably represented Texas State University--San Marcos for the duration of his career, working to increase appropriations for the school and passing the landmark legislation that changed the university's name. In addition to his strong ties with the TSUS, Jeff possesses the qualities and skills necessary to take on this important role.

Perhaps one of his most important assets is his more than 20-year legislative career. During this time he has been involved in every facet of the legislative process--including the budgetary process--which would be quite beneficial to the TSUS as it seeks increased legislative appropriations. He also has developed strong relationships with both Democratic and Republican members of the Texas Legislature that will most certainly outlast his tenure in the Senate. Jeff is an excellent communicator and would be an ideal representative of the TSUS before legislators, funders, and potential students.

Jeff Wentworth is a man who does not shy away from hard work and perseverance, and I have no doubt that he is up to the challenge of taking the reins at the TSUS. I can think of no person better equipped to blaze a trail forward for the Texas State University System.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Rodney Ellis

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The Senate of The State of Texas



Senator Carlos Uresti
District 19

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT OFFICE

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PECOS DISTRICT OFFICE

REEVES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
100 EAST 4TH STREET, SUITE 100
PECOS, TEXAS 79772

DIAL TOLL FREE: 1-800-459-0119

March 10, 2010

Robert W. Lawless, Ph.D.
Senior Consultant
Academic Search, Inc.

Dear Dr. Lawless,

It is a great pleasure to advance the cause of my friend and colleague, Sen. Jeff Wentworth, for the position of chancellor of the Texas State University System. As a veteran legislator and a champion of higher education, Jeff would be a tremendous asset to the TSU System as it strives to accomplish its mission and goals.

In all of his roles — Army counterintelligence officer, educator, attorney, county commissioner, university regent, state legislator, husband and father — Jeff has pursued life with enthusiasm, honor and integrity. His success in these endeavors is easily measured by the love of his family and the number and loyalty of his friends.

In the Texas Senate, Jeff has a reputation for being fair and even-handed, and his approach to lawmaking is as bipartisan as such a body will allow anyone to be. He has earned the respect of his fellow senators and forged friendships that transcend the sometimes insincere and superficial relationships that can mark political life.

Jeff and his wife, Karla, are well known for their generosity, compassion and community spirit. The list of Jeff's personal and civil accomplishments in San Antonio is too long to enumerate here, but it is only a part of a long resume of a life dedicated to public service.

With his honesty, grace and intelligence, Jeff would make a fine ambassador for the TSU system, and I respectfully urge that you give him your full and complete consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information about his talents, accomplishments and abilities for this important post.

Sincerely,


CARLOS I. URESTI

CIU/ml