DATE: July 27, 2017

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Travel Ban and Monies Under GC 1139.8

Recently the California Attorney General added four additional states to the state travel ban list. This brings the total number of states to the eight listed below:

1. Alabama
2. Kansas
3. Kentucky
4. Mississippi
5. North Carolina
6. South Dakota
7. Tennessee
8. Texas

The ban includes language that provides for exceptions when the travel at issue is to participate in meetings or training required by grants, or to meet contractual obligations incurred before January 1, 2017. Such contractual obligations may, depending on the circumstances, include contracts entered into prior to January 1, 2017, in order to attend and participate in athletic or academic events. This restriction only applies to reimbursable travel expenses, not to other expenses such as salaries.

During the recent offsite meeting of the Council of Presidents, the issue arose regarding what monies may be used to pay expenses incurred for travel subject to Government Code Section 11139.8, which prohibits the use of “state funds” for travel to the identified states.

Monies that are appropriated by the legislature, either as part of the budget process or continuously appropriated (e.g., tuition and fees) may not be used to pay for travel to the current list of banned states unless the travel falls under one of the exceptions noted in the legislation and also listed at the bottom of this communication. Monies received by a campus auxiliary organization may be used for such travel, consistent with campus and auxiliary policies. Private funds may also be used for such travel.
Questions about this memo may be directed to Assistant Vice Chancellor and Chief Counsel Andrea Gunn Eaton at aeaton@calstate.edu or Assistant Vice Chancellor and Controller Mary Ek at mek@calstate.edu.

SR:jw

c: Timothy P. White, Chancellor, Chancellor’s Office
   Chief Administration and Business Officers
   Fram Virjee, Executive Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, Chancellor’s Office
   Loren Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs,
      Chancellor’s Office
   Larry Mandel, Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer, Chancellor’s Office
   Garrett Ashley, Vice Chancellor, University Relations and Advancement,
      Chancellor’s Office
   Melissa Bard, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, Chancellor’s Office

Exceptions to the travel ban may be granted for the following purposes:

1) Enforcement of California law, including auditing and revenue collection.
2) Litigation.
3) To meet contractual obligations incurred before January 1, 2017.
4) To comply with requests by the federal government to appear before committees.
5) To participate in meetings or training required by a grant or required to maintain grant funding.
6) To complete job-required training necessary to maintain licensure or similar standards required for holding a position, in the event that comparable training cannot be obtained in California or a different state not affected.
7) For the protection of public health, welfare, or safety, as determined by the CSU or other state agencies.