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November 10, 2016

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
President, University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607

Dear President Napolitano:

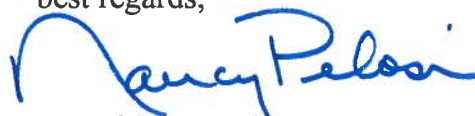
I am writing regarding the University of California, San Francisco's recent decision to outsource 17 percent of the school's Information Technology (IT) workforce to HCL Technologies, a foreign-based corporation. It is my understanding that nearly 100 career and contract IT employees have received layoff notices and have been placed in the untenable position of having to train their replacements -- foreign nationals brought to the United States under the H-1B program by a U.S. subsidiary of HCL Technologies. This misuse of the H-1B visa program is deeply troubling.

The H-1B program was designed to enhance American competitiveness by supplementing the American workforce with highly-skilled foreign nationals in the event of critical shortages in the U.S. labor market. Congress did not design the program to replace – or outsource – American jobs, or to lower domestic wages. Using the H-1B visa program for these purposes runs contrary to Congress' original intent, particularly given that the employees subject to the layoffs are highly skilled.

Protecting the interests of working families in America is a key principle that has guided our efforts in Congress to advance comprehensive immigration reform. The University of California (UC) system's decision, under your leadership, to lay off highly skilled employees and to replace them with foreign workers contradicts this fundamental principle and is a misuse of the H-1B program. I therefore strongly urge you to reconsider the UC system's ill-advised decision.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

best regards,



NANCY PELOSI
Democratic Leader