

April 25, 2011

Mr. David Miles
President, Board of Regents
11260 Aurora Avenue
Urbandale, IA 50322

Dear Mr. Miles:

We contact you today as a follow-up from our colleague, Senator Greiner. As you know, Senator Greiner contacted you and all members of the Board of Regents expressing concerns about an item the Regents published as an upcoming agenda item for your next meeting on April 27-28. Specifically, Agenda Item 3l pertains to designating the Harkin Institute for Public Policy at Iowa State University.

(http://www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/11Memos/April2011/0411_ITEM03l.pdf)

We agree with Senator Greiner's points that the inclusion of this proposed institute raises serious questions about transparency within the Regents system and also prompts very concerning legal and ethical challenges.

At this time, we respectfully request the Board of Regents to postpone any consideration of the Harkin Institute for Public Policy until there is further public discussion about the proposal and the general propriety of a state institution naming an institute after a current elected official serving the people of Iowa.

I appreciate your attention to my concerns and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Cc:

Jack B. Evans
Bonnie J. Campbell
Robert N. Downer
Michael G. Gartner
Ruth R. Harkin
Greta A. Johnson
Craig A. Lang
Rose A. Vasquez
Bruce Rastetter
Katie Mulholland
Nicole Carroll
Robert Donley