



**To:** The Honorable Linda McMahon  
U.S. Secretary of Education

**Re: Request to Immediately Suspend Federal Funding to USC Following Debate Cancellation and Governance Failures**

I'm writing to urge you to immediately suspend federal funding to the University of Southern California following the last-minute cancellation of their planned gubernatorial debate.

This was an important debate. Californians were expecting to hear directly from the candidates in a crowded race about the future of our state.

Instead, Democrats turned it into a mess. Candidates who didn't qualify started complaining, Democrat politicians in the California state legislature piled on, and USC caved. Less than 24 hours before it was supposed to happen, they canceled it.

USC receives about \$1.35 billion a year in federal funding. And this is how they handle a major public event in the middle of an election.

Federal funding has been suspended before when universities fail to meet basic standards or comply with the law. Public money comes with expectations.

I'm asking you to suspend federal payments to USC while this is reviewed. There needs to be clear accountability for what happened.

At a minimum, the president, Beong-Soo Kim, should resign.

Respectfully,

Steve Hilton  
Candidate for Governor of California