



February 22, 2008

The Hon. Ellen Corbett
California State Senate
Via FAX (916) 327-2433

Dear Senator Corbett,

We urge you to vote 'no' on AB624.

Koret Foundation
Koret Fund
33 New Montgomery
Suite 1090
San Francisco, CA
94105-4526

As a private foundation, Koret seeks to maximize our impact in achieving the philanthropic goals developed by our board of directors. We look for nonprofit partners who will be most effective at carrying out these initiatives. In assessing success, we do not ask for a breakdown of organizational leadership, clientele, or contractors by race, gender, or sexual orientation. Nor do we see an appropriate role for government to probe the so-called diversity of foundations awarding grants in the state. Instead, we believe that philanthropic impact is the appropriate measure of performance in the nonprofit sector.


The prospective law requires foundations with assets greater than \$250 million to report the ethnic composition of the nonprofit organizations they support as well as their own. Passage of the bill would mean that nonprofits large and small would have to direct precious resources toward this data collection. **In our view, nonprofit resources are far better spent on direct services than probing personal matters.**

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With all of the challenges before our state, from balancing the budget to improving public education, expenditure of our elected officials' attention and resources on this so-called diversity bill is misguided at best. Moreover, the bill seems to infer that some charities are more worthy than others. To place this judgment in the hands of government is outrageous. Our resources are the product of hard work by two industrious immigrants to America, and wise investment by a board of directors. **The assessment of how best to advance the public good with these hard-earned dollars appropriately resides with those charged by the benefactors to carry out their ideals.**

We strongly urge you to vote 'no' on AB624, which in the end would hinder the work of the nonprofit sector by diverting attention from mission-critical activities to matters of bookkeeping that convey very little about intent, effectiveness and impact.

Yours sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Farber, CEO