Memo from Dean Goldschmid

April 20, 2011

TO: UA College of Medicine Faculty, Staff and Students
FR: Steve Goldschmid, MD, Dean, UA College of Medicine - Tucson
RE: HB 2067

Unfortunately, last night the Legislature passed the amended House Bill 2067, which contains provisions to remove public oversight of UA Healthcare and poses a major threat to our efforts to build one of the nation’s top academic health centers at the University of Arizona.

The fate of this legislation now rests with Gov. Jan Brewer, who has 10 days to sign or veto HB2067. The Arizona Board of Regents, the University and many supporters are working to ensure Gov. Brewer has accurate information so that she sees how devastating this legislation would be to our enterprise. We remain hopeful that the Governor will veto HB 2067.

The bill would eliminate ABOR’s statutory oversight of UA Healthcare for a so-called "18-month cooling-off period." This would be devastating to our efforts to recruit a CEO for UA Healthcare, retain and recruit much-needed faculty and continue the ongoing integration efforts. The legislation also would damage our efforts in strategic planning, fundraising, branding and many other areas.

As you know, the legislation is opposed by all 14 College of Medicine clinical department heads and AHSC college deans, as well as the vast majority of our leadership, faculty, staff and supporters.
We will provide updates about this legislation when information becomes available.