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Assembly Judiciary Committee
1020 N Street, Room 104
Sacramento, CA 95814
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RE: AB 700- Public Records, Exceptions To Disclosure

Dear Chairman Mark Stone, and members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee,

Our organization, The Good Food Brigade, opposes AB 700, as a misguided attempt to protect a small number of professors whose research benefits corporate interests. Professors at our public institutions are public employees. The public has a right to access public records, as stated in the California Constitution, article 1, Section 3. CPRA is the most important law in California that provides that transparency for consumers and the public to help us be informed citizens.

For many of us, CPRA is the only tool we have to expose that small group of professors who do not want their actions known and are appealing to you to unwittingly support their lack of ethical behavior. Education with public funds should rest on truth. If they have nothing to hide, they would probably not be the recipient of a CPRA request to being with.

This bill will take away tools that enable journalists to keep the public informed. If you take away this public right, then it gives the clear signal that government wants to protect its interests over the public good.

Please vote no on AB 700.

Thank you.

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Director, The Good Food Brigade