This script is to help you contact your representatives, the governor, and Janet Napolitano's office to advocate for a resolution to the strike. You can find out who your State Assemblymember and Senator are at http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/

Call your Assemblymember and Senator from your home district, and also call them for the district for your campus. Here are Newsom’s and Napolitano's contact info. It’s better to target your reps and Newsom. If you call Napolitano, ask her office why she hasn’t figured out how to find $310 million in a 9.5 BILLION dollar budget. Feel free to use the script to help you figure out what you want to say - the important thing is to call!

With love from the Sacramento Strategy Group <3

CONTACTS
Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 445-2841

Janet Napolitano
Executive Office
University of California Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street, Office 12122
Phone: (510) 987-9074

SHORT SCRIPT
Hello, my name is ____________ and I'm a resident of [California/the Assemblymember/ Senator’s district] and a faculty member at UC [your campus]. I am calling about the strike for a cost of living adjustment (known as COLA) for UC graduate students. As a UC faculty member I can tell you that the university is not funding our students enough to confront the high cost of living in Santa Cruz. I cannot encourage students to study on my campus. This also makes us less competitive than other top universities, and we lose top recruits to our graduate programs. This is affecting my research and teaching through [Give some examples of how this has affected you].

We need you to prioritize our students in the budget and earmark $310 million as an allocation to the state budget. This amount is what the union says is a living wage for graduate students at all the different campuses. You could [help us work to] approve these funds and give the students what they are asking for, which would end the graduate student strike and help me get back to class again. [Give examples of how low wages are affecting you]

[Long Version on other side ----->]
As a UC faculty member I can tell you that the university is not funding our students enough to confront the high cost of living in Santa Cruz. I cannot encourage students to study on my campus. This also makes us less competitive than other top universities, and we lose top recruits to our graduate programs. This is affecting my research and teaching through [Give some examples of how this has affected you].

I would like the Governor to invest more in the University of California and hold it accountable to fund graduate and undergraduate students. It is important for the state to signal that it supports public education by funding it. We have gone from being a state that invested the most in our higher education to 51st in the nation in per-student spending.

Even though the UC has a budget of 9.5 BILLION dollars, Janet Napolitano has not put students first. Under her watch, the UC grew graduate programs without any funding to support students. Our TAs work hard, but they aren’t paid enough to live in Santa Cruz. They need a cost-of-living adjustment and Napolitano has not figured out how to give it to us. I would like you to put pressure on President Napolitano and the Regents to use the budget you gave them to give graduate students a COLA. She should have figured out how to solve this problem by now.

I support Governor Newsom’s pledge to divest from private prisons and private detention centers. I want you to invest these funds in the public education of students in California. We need you to prioritize our students in the budget and earmark $310 million as an allocation to the state budget. This amount is what the union says is a living wage for graduate students at all the different campuses. You could [help us work to] approve these funds and give the students what they are asking for, which would end the graduate student strike and help me get back to teaching and research again. [Give examples of how graduate student precarity is affecting you.]