



## Associated Students

**RESOLUTION No. 16-17-08**

**AUTHORED BY: CHEY KING, AS EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE**

**REFERRED TO: AS COUNCIL**  
**ACTION SCHEDULED: MARCH 6th, 2017**

**SUBJECT: Resolution of Legislative Stances For Spring 2017 Session**

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students (A.S.) Council of Humboldt State (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 8,600 students; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Mission of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to “assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body,” and to “stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community”; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of California has continues to divest from responsibility of funding Public Higher Education, failure in which is effectively, causing the California State University (CSU) 2017-2018 operating budget to be underfunded and therefore, it is essential for AS representatives to advocate for the students’ needs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the following legislative items are being considered by the California Legislature, and stand to have an impact on HSU and/or the enrolled student body; thus be it,

**RESOLVED**, by the Associated Students Council that we authorize the External Affairs Representative in consultation with the Associated Students President to take the following positions on legislation being proposed in California:

### **AB 214 (Weber) College Student Hunger**

This bill would clarify educational policies for the purpose of improving access for low-income students to the CalFresh program. For the purposes of federal regulation, this bill would specify the definition of half-time college enrollment. Additionally, it would require the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to provide written notice to Cal Grant recipients who qualify for the CalFresh program under federal regulations.

According to the California State University, one in five CSU students experience chronic hunger, the intent of this bill is to reduce food insecurity amongst college students. CalFresh eligibility for students states that any person 18-49; physically and mentally fit for employment; and enrolled in at least half-time in an institution of higher education shall be ineligible to participate in the Food Stamps Program. In order to be exempt from this ineligibility, a student must meet one of the following exemptions: is responsible for a child under the age of 12, enrolled in CalWorks, EOPS, or WIOA.

This bill would make clarifications to the exemptions by requiring CSAC to notify any recipients of Cal Grant awards whose grant includes any amount of funding that has been derived from the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) block grant or state match to be notified that they are

exempt from the CalFresh Program student eligibility rules, per federal statute. Additionally, if the student is participating in a program that aims to increase a student's employability, they will be eligible for a CalFresh Exemption.

AS Stance: Support

### **AB 393 (Quirk-Silva) Mandatory Systemwide Fees and Tuition**

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the costs of public postsecondary education. The bill would require that the amounts of tuition and mandatory systemwide fees that are charged to students of the California Community Colleges, not be increased from the amounts that were charged as of December 31st, 2016, until the completion of the 2019-2020 academic year.

This bill makes the following declarations relating to the California State University: The California Master Plan for Education, states that public higher education shall be tuition free to all its residents. State funding per CSU student is near a 30-year low. Student debt is increasing. The Chancellor found that one in ten student CSU students is homeless and one in five is food insecure. CSU students have had to work longer hours to pay for tuition fees. Tuition and fees have not kept pace with inflation. California is home to an estimated 214,000 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students. One of the top 20 most diverse colleges in the western region of the United States, 10 are CSU campuses. The CSU provides more than one-half of all undergraduate degrees earned by the state's Latino, African American, and Native American students. More than one-half (56 percent) of CSU students identify as students of color. Roughly 35 percent of CSU undergraduates are the first in their families to attend college.

Additionally, this bill would freeze tuition for two years at the rate of the 2016-17 academic year.

AS Stance: Support

### **AB 21 (Kiara) Public postsecondary education: Access to Higher Education for Every Student.**

AS Stance: Support

### **S.B. 54 (de Leon) California Values Act**

This bill would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies, school police, and security departments from using state/agency resources to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest This bill is intended to shield immigrant students from the perceived negative impacts of the current President's immigration policies. "refrain from releasing certain information regarding the immigration status of students and other members of the communities served by these campuses; refuse to allow officers or employees of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enter campuses of their respective segments on official business of that agency unless they provide specified information and at least 10 business days' advance notice; provide stipends for health care for all students who are not eligible for Medicaid and who cannot afford health insurance provided through the institution; offer on-campus housing, or a stipend to cover the cost of off-campus housing, during the periods between academic terms to students who face a significant risk of being unable to return to their respective campuses, as specified; provide for access to legal services without cost to students who face a significant risk of being unable to complete their studies because of possible actions by federal agencies or authorities; and ensure that certain benefits and services provided to students are continued in the event that a specified federal policy is reversed."

AS Stance: Support

### **AB 216 (Gonzalez-Fletcher) Prepaid Postage on Vote-By-Mail Ballots**

This bill would require that the return envelope provided to vote-by-mail voters by election officials have pre-paid postage. According to the author, since 2012, between 50 and 60 percent of ballots cast in California statewide elections have been by mail. As of June 2016, 52.3 percent of registered voters in California were registered as permanent vote by mail (PVBM) voters. Furthermore, counties are increasingly turning to mail ballot elections for their potential to increase efficiency, increase turnout, and reduce costs. Limited pilot programs for mail ballot elections have previously been established in Monterey, Sacramento, San Mateo, Yolo and San Diego counties. Most recently, Senate Bill 450 (Allen, 2015) authorized counties in California to conduct any election as a mail ballot election provided certain conditions, such as the establishment of required vote centers and ballot drop off locations, are met. Some counties will be eligible to begin implementing this starting in 2018. As more and more voters use mail ballots either through individual choice or the decision by counties, it is important to ensure that the process of voting is as equitable as possible.

AS Stance: Support

### **S.B. 16 (Wieckowski) Student Loan Repayment Parity**

This bill would prohibit the amount of disposable earnings, which is the amount of earnings left after legally required deductions are made, subject to levy from exceeding 15% of the individual's disposable earnings per week of 50% disposable earnings that exceed 40 times state minimum hourly wage. This would establish a reduced maximum amount of disposable earnings of an individual judgment debtor subject to levy under an earnings withholding order for a judgment based in whole or in part on a claim for debt on a student loan that is not made, insured, or guaranteed by the United States Government pursuant to the Federal Family Education Loan Program or the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. a person for immigration enforcement purposes. The bill would require all public schools, health facilities operated by the state or a political subdivision of the state, courthouses, and shelters to implement the model policy, or an equivalent policy. The bill would state that all other organizations and entities that provide services related to physical or mental health and wellness, education, or access to justice, including the University of California, are encouraged to adopt the model policy.

AS Stance: Support

### **S.B. 68 (Lara) AB 540 Modernization**

This bill would enable two years at a California Community College to count towards AB 540 eligibility. Currently, nonresident/immigrant students are only exempt from nonresident tuition if they have attended an elementary, secondary school for 3 years. This bill would add to that exemption for non-resident/immigrant students to also include 2 years at a community college as an alternative, or a combination of years at any of those schools. This would provide a more equitable opportunity for students to obtain a degree in the CSU system.

AS Stance: Support

### **AB 990 (Rodriguez) Student Housing Price Disclosure**

CSU schools will post the price of a one-bedroom one-bathroom apartment in the areas where students have been recognized to live off-campus. Most students live off campus since housing is expensive. There is no uniformity or clarity in reporting of costs by campuses. Some schools have no reporting, no clear cost estimates, or types of housing. Some campuses in the same area would have conflicting reports.

Students need this information when making decisions On top of this, students need this information when applying for grants, taxes and financial aid. Students will also use this

information when making decisions, like which school to attend, or if they're even capable of affording a school

AS Stance: Support

**AB 1464 (Weber) Tenure-Track Positions**

This bill would be moving forward with the ACR73, increasing the tenure track faculty to 75%. No current professors may be fired with this bill being the cause. Investment in faculty diversity is encouraged. All involved agencies (CSU, CFA, ASC) must report annually.

The goals include new tenure track quota by the academic years: ('19; 774), ('20; 720), ('21; 770), ('22; 818), ('23; 819), ('24, 865), ('25; 877), ('26; 915).

Students deserve high quality teachers and teachers deserve helpful incentives to want to become teachers. We(California) have already wanted to give teachers this in the passing of ACR 73 (2001) and AS-3142-13/FA (2013), which both were published with the intent being to help achieve that end. Helping the teachers makes them more inclined to help us with our other endeavors as well.

AS Stance: Support

**SB 705 (Allen) Solid Waste: disposable food service containers**

Otherwise known as the Ocean Pollution Reduction Act of 2017, this act would prohibit food providers from dispensing prepared food in disposable food containers that are not accepted by recycling or composting programs. This bill would be enacted January 1, 2021. This act applies to any store, shop, sales outlet, restaurant, grocery store, supermarket, delicatessen, catering truck, or any other group that provides food regularly. The act includes, but is not limited to, plates, cups, bowls, trays or lidded containers.

AS Stance: Support

**AB 738 (Limón.) Pupil instruction: Native American studies: model curriculum**

This act would require the Instructional Quality Commission to develop, adopt, modify, or revise a model curriculum of Native American studies in public schools for grades 9 through 12. This model curriculum would then be enacted by the State Board of Education. The commission would allow 45 days of public comment before submission. The model would encourage schools that do not already offer a course in Native American studies to offer a Native American studies course. This course shall count as an elective in either social sciences or English language. This act would serve the purpose of meeting the state's standards in equity and inclusiveness, and to educate students on the contributions of various cultures.

AS Stance: Support

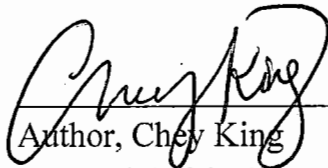
**AB 1567 (Holden) Public postsecondary education: California State University: California Community Colleges: Foster Youth.**

Currently, the Education Code establishes the Higher Education Outreach and Assistance Act for Emancipated Foster Youth requires certain actions from the Trustees of the California State University and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to increase enrollment and retention of foster youth at California State University (CSU) and California Community College (CCC) campuses; these requirements include communication, outreach, and assistance efforts that ensure that foster youth are given access to enrollment in the CSU Educational Opportunity Program and the CCC Extended Opportunity Program. The proposed act is an amendment to Section 89346 of the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education, to increase transparency of relevant information. This act ensures that CSUs and CCCs cooperate with the State Department of Social Services and county welfare departments in order to share information and data regarding foster youth access to programs such as California State University

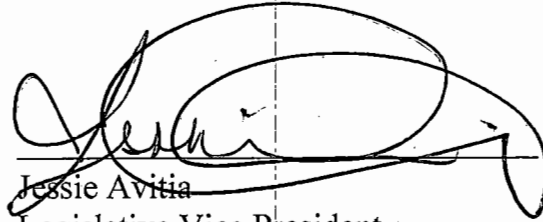
Educational Opportunity Program. The costs imposed on local agencies and school districts for the new state mandates would be reimbursed by the state. Overall, this amendment would improve an act established to help foster youth access higher education opportunity programs by developing channels for information sharing and transparency.

AS Stance: Support

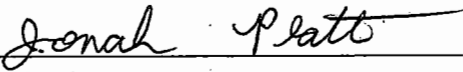
**RESOLVED**, The members of Associated Students Council, agree to a vote for support of each piece of legislation presented.



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