(#10-04/05-EX)

Resolution on HSU Support for Academic Freedom for Students
#10-04/05-EX – March 8, 2005

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University reaffirms the principles of academic freedom, as they apply to students, that are articulated in the *HSU Faculty Handbook*, Appendix P "Academic Tenure and Freedom" and Appendix U "Statement of Professional Responsibility"; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University reaffirms the principles of academic freedom, as they apply to students, that are articulated in the American Association of University Professors' *Policy Documents & Reports*, 9th ed. (2001); and be it further

RESOLVED: That there exists a Student Grievance Process administered through the Office of Student Affairs, for students who believe their rights to academic freedom have been violated; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University has reviewed its policies on academic freedom and find that they provide support for student learning in "a class and university environment that fosters civil discourse, respect, open inquiry and freedom of expression"; and be it further

RESOLVED: That while the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University supports academic freedom for students, it is opposed to Senate Bill No. 5 ("Student Bill of Rights") because policies and procedures that protect student rights are already in place at Humboldt State University and the California State University System; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University further opposes Senate Bill No. 5 because the legislation limits rather than encourages open discourse in the educational environment and disrespects the professionalism of faculty and the maturity and the intellectual curiosity of our students; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University send this resolution to the CSU Statewide Senate, all CSU Campus Senate Chairs, the CSU Board of Trustees, the Chancellor's Office, the California State Student Association, the HSU Associated Students, and area legislators, Assemblywoman Patty Berg and State Senator Wesley Chesbro.

***RATIONALE**: The Academic Senate of Humboldt State University appreciates this opportunity to remind all constituents that it endorses the importance of academic freedom for students as well as for faculty members and that policies and procedures are in place, and have been in place for decades, for students who believe their rights to academic freedom have been violated. "Students are entitled to an atmosphere*

conducive to learning and to even-handed treatment in all aspects of the teacher-student relationship. … Evaluation of students and the award of credit must be based on academic performance professionally judged and not on matters irrelevant to that performance, whether personality, race, religion, degree of political activism, or personal beliefs" (HSU Faculty Handbook, Appendix U, p. 3).

APPROVED – March 8, 2005