

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3476-21/FGA
March 18-19, 2021

**2021 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POSITIONS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (ASCSU)**

- RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) adopt the provisional positions on bills currently under consideration in the California Legislature as identified in the document titled *Academic Senate of the California State University, Positions on Proposed Bills in the California State Legislature – 2021*; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That by ‘priority’ ASCSU means that a bill merits a heightened level of attention by the ASCSU that may lead to potential advocacy for or against the bill, or that requires close monitoring of the bill's progress, and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That these adopted provisional positions guide ASCSU advocacy activities during the 2021 legislative calendar; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU adopt the categorization of bills in the **list** below into: **Priority** (Support, Oppose or No Position/Watch), and **other no-priority bills**, including those which merit putting ASCSU recommendations on record, and as categorized by the topics indicated, and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That if a change in the ASCSU position on a bill is warranted and, due to time or other constraints, consultation with the Academic Senate is not possible, the ASCSU Executive Committee is empowered to act on behalf of the Senate, in accordance with resolution [AS-3148-13/FGA \(Rev\)](#) and the [ASCSU Bylaws](#), while exercising due diligence in keeping the ASCSU informed of such actions; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to the Governor of the State of California, CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, California Faculty Association (CFA), California State Student Association (CSSA), CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty & Staff Association (CSU ERFSA), Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges (CCC), Academic Senate of the University of California (UC), President of the California Community Colleges’ Board of Governors, Chair of the University of California Board of Regents, California Senate President pro Tempore, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Chair of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee, Speaker of the California Assembly,

Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, and the Chair of the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee.

RATIONALE: *This resolution is part of the ASCSU Legislative advocacy strategy for 2021, based on the guidelines approved by the Senate in Fall 2013. Its purpose is to assist the Academic Senate and its members to be effective and to respond quickly to proposed legislation during the key period of the legislative calendar (January-May). It is during this time that Legislative bills are heard in committee in their House of origin. Advocacy efforts to shape and influence bill development are likely to be most effective at this time. The positions adopted in this resolution are understood as provisional since bills often change between January and May; adopting provisional positions allows flexibility in advocacy efforts while still ensuring that at any one point in time the positions have the backing of the entire ASCSU body, or of the ASCSU Executive Committee acting on behalf of the ASCSU.*

ASCSU List of Bills for Advocacy or General Support

Link	Title <u>Author(s)</u>	Priority	ASCSU Position	Comments
SB 309	School finance: college readiness: grants and notification. <u>Leyva</u>	Priority	Support: Student Access	Update of bill: For the 2021–22 fiscal year, the sum of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Superintendent for transfer by the Controller to Section A of the State School Fund for allocation by the Superintendent to establish the A–G Completion Improvement Grant Program.
AB 543	Student Orientation: Cal Fresh. <u>Davies, Dodd</u>	Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	Gives new students information about food insecurity and CalFresh
AB 940	College Mental Health Services Program. <u>McCarty</u>	Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	This bill would amend Proposition 63 by appropriating an unspecified amount annually from the administrative account of the Mental Health Services Fund to the UC, the CSU and the CCCs, as specified, to implement the College Mental Health Services Program.
AB 1377	Student housing: California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2021: community college student housing. <u>McCarty</u>	Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	This bill would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2021 to provide loans to qualifying applicants of the UC, the CSU and the CCCs for the purpose of constructing affordable student housing, as specified. The bill would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Fund in the State Treasury.
SB 367	School Safety, opioid overdose reversal medication. <u>Hurtado</u>	Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	Provides Opioid counseling for all new students.
AB 14	Communications: broadband services: California Advanced Services Fund. <u>Many authors</u>	Priority	Support: Broadband	Aimed at the deployment of broadband infrastructure and seeks to democratize distance learning.

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AB 34	Broadband for All Act of 2022. <u>Glazer</u>	Priority	Support: Broadband	This bill would enact the Broadband for All Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to support the 2022 Broadband for All Program.
AB 1176	Communications: universal broadband service: California Connect Fund. <u>Garcia</u>	Priority	Support: Broadband	The bill would, until January 1, 2031, require the commission to develop, implement, and administer the California Connect Program to ensure that high-speed broadband service is available to every household in the state at affordable rates. <u>(consistent with recent ASCSU resolution)</u>
AB 288	California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 2021 <u>Bonta</u>	Priority	Support	This bill would enact the California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 2021, which would prohibit each public and private institution of higher education in the state that receives, or benefits from, state-funded financial assistance, or that enrolls students who receive state-funded student financial assistance, from reducing certain students' institution-based financial aid award below their financial need, as specified.
AB 1421	Public postsecondary education: refunds of student campus fees. <u>Nguyen, others</u>	Priority	Support	[Due to Covid] This bill would require the trustees and the board of governors, and request the regents, to: ... (2) ascertain the amounts of campus fees collected from each of the students identified under subdivision (a), and calculate from those amounts of campus fees, the amounts from which the students received no value because of their enforced absence from campus and which should therefore be refunded to the students; ... <u>... The bill would appropriate an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the Controller for allocation for payment of refunds to students of the CSU, ...</u>
AB 927	Public postsecondary education: community colleges: ... baccalaureate pilot program <u>Medina</u>	Priority	Oppose	<u>This bill would extend the operation of the statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program [for CCCs] indefinitely.</u> The bill would remove the requirements that the program consist of a maximum of 15 community college district programs and for a student to commence a program by the end of the 2022–23 academic year.

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AB 1115	Public postsecondary education: CCC baccalaureate pilot program. <u>Choi</u>	Priority	No Position/ Watch	This bill would extend the operation of the statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program by one year, until July 1, 2027.
AB 928	Postsecondary education: transfer process. <u>Berman</u>	Priority	Oppose Unless Amended	This bill would express findings and declarations of the Legislature related to the process of transfer from community colleges to 4-year institutions. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation related to a student-centered transfer process. (Is this legislative intrusion?)
AB 737	Public postsecondary education: CSU: tuition <u>Bonta, others</u>	Priority	No Position/ Watch	This bill would prohibit the charging of tuition or mandatory systemwide fees for enrollment at a campus of the California State University for any academic year, for up to 2 academic years, to a CCC resident transfer student who has completed an associate degree for transfer, has received a fee waiver pursuant to the California College Promise, and is at least 28 years of age, as specified. Funding remains unclear - thus the recommendation of watch .
AB 245	Educational equity: student records: name and gender changes. <u>Chiu</u>	Not Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	In support of gender equity regarding name changes.
AB 1113	Public postsecondary education: exemption from tuition and fees: [... Covid or other emergencies] <u>Medina</u>	Not Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	This bill would additionally prohibit CA higher education systems, if they adopt an appropriate resolution, from collecting mandatory systemwide tuition and fees from any qualifying surviving spouse or surviving child of a deceased person ... who was employed as a licensed physician ... [etc.] and who died of COVID-19.
AB 1185	Student financial aid: Cal Grant program. <u>Cervantes</u>	Not Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	This bill would require that, in a state of emergency, as defined, resulting from the COVID-19 public health crisis, specified Cal Grant Program eligibility requirements related to time limits for award eligibility and to the age of an award recipient would not apply. [Repeal in 2024.]

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AB 396	CalFresh: educational programs. <u>Gabriel</u>	Not Priority	Support: Student Basic Needs	A program that meets the eligibility standards established by the State Department of Social Services for CalFresh local educational programs that increase employability at a campus of the California State University, shall, and each campus of the University of California is requested to, submit a certification application to the department on or before June 1, 2022.
AB 305	Veteran services: notice <u>Maienschein</u>	Not Priority	Support: Student Access	CSU will provide veteran benefits to all who has identified that they, or a family member, has served in the Armed Forces of the US ...
SB 45	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022. <u>Portantino</u>	Not Priority	Support: Environment Resolution AS-3485-21/FGA	Protection of natural resources is a lasting benefit to all CA, including CSU.
AB 655	California Law Enforcement Accountability Reform Act <u>Kalra</u>	Not Priority	Support: Law Enforcement	Candidates for peace officers: This bill would require that background investigation to include an inquiry into whether a candidate for specified peace officer positions has engaged in membership in a hate group, participation in hate group activities, or public expressions of hate, as those terms are defined. The bill would provide that certain findings would disqualify a person from employment.
SB 387	Peace officers: certification, education, and recruitment. <u>Portantino</u>	Not Priority	Support: Law Enforcement	This bill would require the commission to work with stakeholders from law enforcement, ... [CA higher education institutions] ... to develop a list of courses to include as requirements for obtaining a basic certificate, as specified. The bill would require an applicant for a basic certificate to complete those courses before obtaining the certificate. By imposing additional training costs on local law enforcement agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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SB 416	Corrections: educational programs <u>Hueso</u>	Not Priority	Support: Law Enforcement	This bill would require the department [of Corrections] to offer college programs provided by the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California, or other regionally accredited, nonprofit colleges or universities in California to inmates with a general education development certificate or equivalent or a high school diploma.
SB 659	Community colleges: California College Promise. <u>Becker</u>	Not Priority	No Position/ Watch: Student Access	This bill would authorize a community college district to use existing funds for the implementation of the California College Promise, and to provide assistance to students for the total cost of attendance.
SB 737	California Student Opportunity and Access Program. <u>Limon</u>	Not Priority	No Position/ Watch: Student Access	This bill, among other things, would instead authorize the commission to apportion funds under the program to projects designed to increase accessibility of postsecondary educational opportunities and financial aid for pupils from underserved communities who meet specified criteria. Mentions "college success coaches," without defining such positions.
SB 785	Public postsecondary education: California Promise program: CSU students. <u>Glazer</u>	Not Priority	No Position/Watch: Student Access	This bill would require, commencing with the 2022–23 academic year, that at least 5% of each incoming class at each participating campus of the California State University be a participant in the California Promise program, and that at least 70% of those participating students be either low-income students, first-generation students, or students from communities that are underrepresented in postsecondary education. Good in concept; but implementation may be extremely complicated.
AB 1456	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Reform Act. <u>McCarty, Median, Leyva</u>	Not Priority	No Position/ Watch: Student Access	Not enough details, thus Watch .

Approved – March 18-19, 2021