Resolution in support of Proposition 13: Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2020

WHEREAS, the Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) is the single recognized voice of more than 20,000 students enrolled at CSUSB both at the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses; and

WHEREAS, the Associated Students Incorporated serves, empowers, and advocates on behalf of the students at California State University, San Bernardino through the representation of student interests and needs, the inclusion of students in the decision making process, the execution of premier events and services, and the provision of opportunities for students to be productive leaders of the campus community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 13 – the Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2020 – places a $15 billion facilities bond on the March 3, 2020, ballot; and

WHEREAS, if Proposition 13 passes, the CSU will receive $2 billion to improve its aging infrastructure to ensure safe and modern facilities for its students, faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, these funds would be used to address necessary fire, safety and seismic deficiencies and undertake projects to modernize existing buildings or construct replacement buildings to keep pace with current technology and workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, more than half of the CSU’s facilities are at least 40 years old, and one-third are more than 50 years old; and

WHEREAS, the CSU has more than $15 billion in academic infrastructure needs, including $1.2 billion in seismic projects, approximately $3.6 billion in deferred maintenance needs, and $900 million in infrastructure renewal backlog, which grows by $290 million each year; and

WHEREAS, the last state-authorized general obligation bond for higher education was in 2006, and the $690 million allocated to the CSU was spent by 2012; and

WHEREAS, since 2012, the CSU has had to make requests for one-time capital funding through the annual operating budget request process, putting facility needs in direct competition for funding with other system priorities, such as providing student services and expanding enrollment; and

WHEREAS, the independent Public Policy Institute of California has found that the state will have a shortage of 1.3 million college-educated workers by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the CSU could accommodate additional students if campus facilities were able to be properly maintained and appropriately expanded; and

WHEREAS, the CSU plays a major role in California’s economy and the creation of the state’s workforce by graduating nearly half of all bachelor’s degrees awarded in California each year; and therefore be it

RESOLVED, supports Proposition 13, the Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2020; and be it further
RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be distributed to President of CSUSB Tomás Morales, Vice President for Student Affairs Paz Olivérez, Vice President for University Advancement of CSUSB Robert Nava, Vice President for Administration and Finance of CSUSB Douglas Freer, Associate Vice President for Government and Community Relations Pamela Langford, Chair of the Faculty Senate Beth Steffel, Chair of the Staff Council Alfredo Barcenas and Chair of the Santos Manuel Student Union.

Adonis Galarza-Toledo
President & Chair, Associated Students Inc.

Helen Martinez
Executive Vice President, Associated Students Inc.

Jesse Felix
Executive Director, Associated Students Inc.

Date

Date

Date