

Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles, Associated Students, Incorporated

## A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE MARCH 1<sup>st</sup> NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION TO DEFEND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Authored by Hector Jacinto, Undergraduate Academic Senator

- **WHEREAS,** Associated Students, Incorporated (A.S.I.) is the single recognized voice for over 20,000 students at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA); and
- **WHEREAS,** A.S.I. recognizes public education is a right and not a privilege and that the promise of free or affordable public higher education for all is one of the greatest democratic achievements in California's history; and
- WHEREAS, Governor Brown has proposed a budget plan that does not restore the \$100 million trigger cut, making the \$750 million reduction a permanent reduction to the base of state funding for the CSU and relies on the passage of a ballot tax measure that, if not approved, triggers an additional \$200 million cut to the CSU; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed \$2 billion in state support for the CSU is the lowest in 15 years, and reflects the continuation of a \$750 million or 27 percent reduction in funding made in 2011-2012; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed budget cuts represent a threat to students' right to a public education, particularly impacting students of color, low-income students, and middle class students, many of whom face increased fees without the benefit of financial aid; and
- **WHEREAS**, the proposed budget represents a further decrease in socio-economic diversity and an increase in the inequity already present in higher education; and
- **WHEREAS**, we refuse to accept educational re-segregation, massive tuition increases, outrageous student debt, and increasing privatization of higher education; and
- WHEREAS, a National Day of Action has been called by students, faculty, and staff from all levels of education, from K-12 through higher education to mobilize on March 1<sup>st</sup> across the country to defend public education; and
- **WHEREAS,** CSU Students for Quality Education (SQE) has officially endorsed March 1<sup>st</sup> and will be coordinating events across CSU campuses; and



- **WHEREAS,** the California Faculty Association (CFA) endorses the March 1<sup>st</sup> National Day of Action and encourages a coalition of students and campus allies to participate in peaceful mobilizations on CSU campuses; and
- WHEREAS, A.S.I. will use this day of action to educate our constituents about our own lobbying efforts and advocacy initiatives including our participation in the March for Higher Education where we join thousands from community colleges, the UCs, and CSU system to protest recent and proposed budget cutbacks, fee increases, and layoffs across Higher Education; let it be
- **RESOLVED,** that A.S.I. endorses the March 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Action to Defend Public Education; and let it also be
- **RESOLVED,** that A.S.I. pledges to take action to defend public education, encourage the fight against the proposed budget cuts, and strengthen an influential lobby corps; and let it further be
- **RESOLVED,** that A.S.I. stands in solidarity with all branches of public education, including students, faculty, and staff in the K-12 and higher education sectors who are fighting to defend the right to public education on the March 1<sup>st</sup> National Day of Action to Defend Public Education; and let it finally be
- **RESOLVED,** that copies of this Resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to CSULA President James M. Rosser, CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed, the CSU Board of Trustees, the California State Student Association, the CSULA University Times, California Governor Jerry Brown, and members of the California State Legislature to inform them of our commitment to take action to fight education budget cuts.