

**THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**

**Bill Number:** Senate Resolution # 2020-26  
**Title:** In Support of Incorporating Basic Needs Resources on Syllabi  
**Sponsored by:** Vice President Leen Almahdi and Senator-at-Large Jireh Deng  
**Date Submitted:** April 9, 2020  
**Date Approved:** April 29, 2020

**WHEREAS** the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) Board of Directors at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) is the recognized voice for over 37,000 students; and

**WHEREAS** a study commissioned by California State University (CSU) Chancellor Timothy P. White conducted by Dr. Rashida Crutchfield and Dr. Jennifer Maguire demonstrates that food insecurity is a major issue within higher education where in 2018, 41.6% of all surveyed CSU students were experiencing inadequate access to nutritious foods;<sup>1</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that the United States Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as the “lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life;”<sup>2</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that as of 2018, approximately 40% of students at CSULB are enduring food insecurity;<sup>3</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that persistent food insecurity has an impact on all people experiencing it; however, for college students in particular, it results in significantly lower GPA and can lead to various mental health issues;<sup>4 5</sup>and

**WHEREAS** the same CSU study in 2018 identified over one in ten students in the CSU who had experienced homelessness over a 12-month period as defined by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Education drawn from the McKinney-Veto Act;<sup>1</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that the majority of students enduring food insecurity, housing insecurity, and all other issues related to resource scarcity are of historically marginalized groups;<sup>6</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that the CSU released a Basic Needs Initiative where efforts to meet students’ immediate food needs, providing emergency and housing funds, informing students of resources like CalFresh, and offering additional resources like cooking classes or financial literacy workshops were supported and encouraged;<sup>7 8</sup>and

**WHEREAS** that the CSULB Basic Needs program includes resources that can help support students through providing the following resources that can be found on the Basic Needs website: ASI Beach Pantry, CalFresh Outreach Program, Student Emergency Intervention and Wellness Program, and Beach Bites;<sup>9</sup>and

<sup>1</sup> [https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy\\_phaseII\\_withAccessibilityComments.pdf](https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/definitions-of-food-security.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.csulb.edu/for-the-media/article/more-40-percent-of-students-struggle-to-put-food-the-table-at-california-state>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10668926.2013.850758>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/quora/2019/11/25/how-does-food-insecurity-affect-physical-and-mental-health/#4b42a76050d2>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.aacu.org/aacu-news/newsletter/majority-college-students-experience-food-insecurity-housing-insecurity-or>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Documents/10487-Basic-Needs-Flyer.pdf>

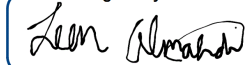
<sup>8</sup> <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Pages/Student-Success-Supported-Through-University-Wide-Basic-Needs-Initiative.aspx>

<sup>9</sup> [http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/students/basic\\_needs\\_program/](http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/students/basic_needs_program/)

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- WHEREAS** that the Basic Needs program at CSULB was able to serve 314 students in the 2018-19 academic year and this number can increase if there was more awareness for the various resources offered on our campus; and
- WHEREAS** that CSULB has developed and implemented many helpful resources; however these resources can go underutilized despite there being a need for them because of the inaccessibility caused by the lack of knowledge and exposure to these resources;<sup>10 11 12</sup>and
- WHEREAS** that CSULB has stated amongst their goals for a prepared campus community by 2030 to engage all students;<sup>13</sup>and
- WHEREAS** that students are best engaged in classrooms when they are safely housed and nutritiously fed; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that CSULB should continue expanding its support for students enduring housing and food insecurity by encouraging professors to highlight the Basic Needs resources on their syllabi to reach a larger amount of students; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that various other CSU's including CSU Monterey Bay, CSU East Bay, San Jose State University, and CSU Dominguez Hills have either included or began the process to incorporate Basic Needs resources and information on class syllabi; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB should align itself with other CSU campuses in their efforts of ensuring as many students as possible know of these resources; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI supports any initiative the university takes to include Basic Needs information on the syllabi of courses; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will continue to advocate for the expansion and implementation of this initiative since it can help support many students who are food and housing insecure; and be it finally
- RESOLVED** that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Jane Conoley, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Ann Takemoto, incoming Vice President of Student Affairs Beth Lensen, Provost Brian Jersky, Chair of the Academic Senate Jessica Pandya, all college deans, Director of Basic Needs Kenneth Kelly, Dean of Students Piya Bose, all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er and 22 West Media.

DocuSigned by:



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Leen Almahdi, Vice President &  
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6163327/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/college-food-insecurity-support/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://theglobepost.com/2019/04/25/us-college-food-insecurity/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.csulb.edu/beach-2030/beach-2030-values-and-priorities>

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Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

DocuSigned by:

*Lizbeth Velasquez*

715377D2C8CF442  
Lizbeth Velasquez, Associated Students President

4/30/2020

Date  
4/30/2020

Date

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