

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

Bill Number: SR #2020-28
Title: College Student Inclusion in CARES Act and Support of S. 3489
Sponsored by: Senator-at-Large Jireh Deng
Co-Sponsored by: ASI President Lizbeth Velasquez
Date Submitted: April 22, 2020
Date Approved: May 6, 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 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States federal government has signed a stimulus package; and

WHEREAS the stimulus package outlines specific eligibility criteria to receive the money:

- Are a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien
- Cannot be claimed as a dependent on someone else's return
- Have a social security number (SSN) that is valid for employment (valid SSN);¹and

WHEREAS parents receive an additional \$500 for each qualifying child who:

- Was claimed as a dependent on your tax return
- Was under age 17 at the end of the taxable year
- Is a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or U.S. resident alien
- Has a valid SSN or an Adoption Taxpayer Identification Number (ATIN);¹and

WHEREAS students under the age of 24 receiving financial aid under FAFSA are still considered legally dependent even if they do not receive financial support from their parents;²and

WHEREAS according to the data provided by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 2018-19 year, 36% of those between the ages of 16 to 24 were working part-time or full-time while enrolled in school;³and

WHEREAS the Pew Research Center reported that in 2018, almost 1 in 4 of young adults age 22 and younger were financially independent of their parents;⁴and

WHEREAS the criteria to receive a stimulus check exclude a large number of college students between the ages of 17-24 who are financially independent, working to pay for all of their expenses but are claimed legally dependent on taxes;⁵and

¹ <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payment-information-center#calculating>

² <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/dependency#dependent-or-independent>

³ <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/hsgsec.nr0.htm>

⁴ <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/10/23/majority-of-americans-say-parents-are-doing-too-much-for-their-young-adult-children/>

⁵ <https://www.vox.com/the-goods/2020/4/15/21222170/stimulus-checks-dependents-excluded>

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- WHEREAS** undocumented students without social security numbers and international students on F1 visas are ineligible to receive any of the stimulus checks;⁶and
- WHEREAS** international students pay higher fees to subsidize in-state tuition, they must show financial means to afford tuition but as of the crisis, these means to afford tuition for many have dried up and little to no support has been given to international students; and
- WHEREAS** the CARES Act includes \$12.56 billion allocated to higher education institutions where each institution must reserve 50% of the monies towards student emergency financial aid grants;⁷and
- WHEREAS** CSULB is expected to receive over \$41 million dollars of which over \$21 million is to be distributed to students;⁸and
- WHEREAS** CSULB's student population was counted to be 36,846 in the academic year 2018-19⁹, assuming the student population is the same in the year 2019-20, the grant money divided evenly amongst students would amount to about \$570 per student; and
- WHEREAS** the California Student Aid Commission conducted a survey in 2018-19 that found college students were paying almost up to \$2,000 a month for non-tuition costs;¹⁰and
- WHEREAS** a study of Basic Needs across the CSU released in 2018 found that over 40% of students were food insecure, with 10.9% having experienced housing insecurity in the past 12 months;¹¹and
- WHEREAS** economists have estimated an unemployment rate of 10.5% and 40.6% as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;¹²and
- WHEREAS** due to loss of income the current rates of student housing and food insecurities are likely to be much higher; and
- WHEREAS** these emergency financial aid grants are only available to U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens;¹³and
- WHEREAS** these provisions exclude again, the estimated "9,500 CSU students [who] are undocumented and receive AB540 waivers"¹⁴ yearly and the CSU's current population of 16,122 international students;¹⁵now therefore, be it

⁶ <https://www.path2usa.com/blog/h1-b-visa-holders-will-get-coronavirus-stimulus-checks-starting-next-week>

⁷ <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresactgrantfundingcoverletterfinal.pdf>

⁸ <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/allocationsforsection18004a1ofcaresact.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.csulb.edu/news/faculty-experts/fast-facts>

¹⁰ https://www.csac.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2018-19_student_expenses_and_resources_survey_web.pdf

¹¹ https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf

¹² <https://www.stlouisfed.org/on-the-economy/2020/march/back-envelope-estimates-next-quarters-unemployment-rate>

¹³ <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfstudentfaqs.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://csulb.libguides.com/undocumented/start>

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- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI urges state and federal legislators along with City of Long Beach and Los Angeles County officials to recognize the needs of college students to cover monthly non-tuition costs that may not be paid for by the potential one-time emergency financial aid grant distributed by campus officials; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI commends Governor Gavin Newsom who has released a plan for a \$125 million fund for undocumented families living in California;¹⁶and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI encourages federal, state, city and countywide officials to provide relief to individuals who were not included as recipients of the stimulus check in the CARES Act including but not limited to:
- College students between the ages of 17-24 claimed as dependents on their parent's taxes
 - Undocumented students who are recipients of AB 540
 - International students on F1 visa status; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI encourages the federal government to support S.3489 - Supporting Students in Response to Coronavirus Act; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that S.3489 would provide the possibility for an additional \$750,000 for each higher education institution to apply and expand their emergency financial aid grant funds to support student basic needs;¹⁷and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI encourages the University to expand access to student emergency grants by suspending the eligibility requirement that students must exhaust all sources of financial aid and include COVID-19 related expenses as a qualification;¹⁸and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI encourages the University to direct all philanthropic efforts and student fees for facilities on-campus and the residential halls unused towards student emergency grants and the distribution of food to students through the Beach Pantry; and be it finally
- RESOLVED** that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Jane Close Conoley, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Mary Ann Takemoto, incoming Vice President for Student Affairs Beth Lensen, Vice President for Administration and Finance Scott Apel, Vice President for University Relations and Development Michele Cesca, Provost Brian Jersky, Chair of the Academic Senate Jessica Pandya, Director of Basic Needs Kenneth Kelly, Dean of Students Piya Bose, the California State University Board of Trustees, Governor Gavin Newsom, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, City of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, the Cal State Student Association, State Senator Lena Gonzalez, State Senator Tom Umberg, State Senator Steven Bradford, Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Rendon, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris, Congressman Alan Lowenthal, Congressman Nanette

¹⁶ <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/04/15/california-to-give-cash-payments-to-immigrants-hurt-by-coronavirus.html>

¹⁷ <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/s3489/BILLS-116s3489is.pdf>

¹⁸ <http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/students/seiwp/index.html>

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Diaz Barragán, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hanh, all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Magazine.

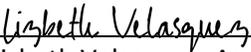
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Leen Almehdi, Vice President &
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

5/15/2020

DocuSigned by:


Lizbeth Velasquez, Associated Students President

Date
5/15/2020

Date

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