

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

Bill Number: Senate Resolution #2020-33
Title: Recommendation to Suspend the Use of SAT/ACT Scores for College Admission Purposes Indefinitely in the CSU System
Sponsored by: Senator-at-Large Stephany Triska
Co-Sponsored by: ASI Treasurer Daniel Galindo
Date Submitted: April 17, 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 it is the mission of the ASI Board of Directors at CSULB to “facilitate the achievement of students’ education objectives and life goals through programs, services, [and] facilities that advocate student needs and interests, compel student representation in campus decision making and provide students with resources that they identify as necessary for their intellectual, social and physical development¹” and

WHEREAS it is the mission of the California State University system to “achieve success for all students through a quality education matched with opportunity²” and more-so the California State University system celebrates itself for its “commitment to diversity, inclusion and excellence... [it] is a stalwart advocate for student achievement, irrespective of background or life circumstance;³” and

WHEREAS if it is the mission of both the ASI Board of Directors and the California State University system to “facilitate the achievement of students’ education objectives...irrespective of background or life circumstance” then it is imperative that both institutions examine and eliminate all barriers facing prospective and current students that prove antithetical to the mission statements of both of the aforementioned institutions such as the SAT and ACT examinations administered by the College Board; and

WHEREAS ASI understands the variances in education a prospective college student receives in their K-12 education, and the CSU system admits students from different states and different countries; and

WHEREAS ASI recognizes the attempt that standardized tests are used to account for these variances in education; however, the SAT/ACT does not accurately account for these variances in education; and

WHEREAS in a press release issued on April 17, 2020, the California State University announced they will “temporarily suspend the use of ACT/SAT examinations in determining admission eligibility for all CSU campuses for the 2021-22 academic year,” and CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White states “this temporary change will ensure equitable access to the university, and should provide some measure of relief to prospective students and their families,⁴” thus Chancellor White recognizes that there needs to be equitable access to the university; and

¹ <https://www.asicsulb.org/corporate/resources/about-us>

² <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/diversity/inclusive-excellence>

³ <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/why-the-csu-matters/Pages/closing-the-achievement-gap.aspx>

⁴ <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Pages/CSU-to-Suspend-Standardized-Testing-Requirement-for-Upcoming-Admission-Cycles.aspx>

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- WHEREAS** the SAT/ACT examinations issued by the College Board presents an inequitable barrier that disproportionately affects students of low-income and students of color and does not prove to be an accurate measure of success for students entering institutions of higher education; and
- WHEREAS** the National Center for Fair & Open Testing has affirmed that “40 percent of all four-year colleges and universities are now ‘test-optional,’ including more than half of U.S. News & World Report’s top 100 liberal arts colleges;”⁵ and
- WHEREAS** Saul Geiser, a research associate at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley has submitted findings on November 15, 2015 in regards to SAT testing that, “after controlling for [socioeconomic status], SAT scores are a relatively poor predictor of how students will perform in college, especially students of color;”⁶ and
- WHEREAS** the University of North Carolina System piloted a program which allowed three of its state universities to make the ACT/SAT tests optional for prospective students during the college admissions process; and this pilot program was created in response to “analysis and review of national research that showed the primary importance of GPA and the relative insignificance of test scores as predictors of student success.”⁷ The pilot covered a cohort of students admitted in fall 2015 through fall 2017. In a report presented to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors in January 2020 it was determined that “the performance for the...cohorts shows no statistical difference in academic performance between the students admitted under the pilot standards and those admitted under the regular admissions standards,”⁸ thus the standardized tests administered by the College Board are not a true indicator of student aptitude and their future academic success; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that ASI requests that CSU Chancellor White and the CSU Board of Trustees formally recognize the deficiencies of the ACT and SAT examinations when determining student success, and that the CSU system officially discontinue the use of SAT and ACT examinations in determining admission eligibility for all CSU campuses permanently starting in the year 2022-23, and be it further
- RESOLVED** that the CSU system at the direction of Chancellor White, the CSU Board of Directors, and the succeeding CSU Chancellor develop a holistic review of the CSU admissions application that reflects the CSU mission statement and vision dedicated to its “commitment to diversity, inclusion and excellence... irrespective of background or life circumstance.” A holistic admissions approach includes the implementation of written statements that explores the applicant’s unique experiences and background story that will be used to evaluate the aptitude and readiness of each prospective student, in lieu of SAT/ACT scores; and be it finally

⁵ https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qvgyqm/ban-the-sat-and-act

⁶ <https://cshe.berkeley.edu/news/growing-correlation-between-race-sat-scoresnew-findings-california>

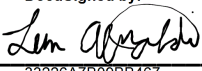
⁷ <https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/bog/doc.php?id=63103&code=bog>


⁸ <https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/bog/doc.php?id=63103&code=bog>

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RESOLVED that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Dr. Jane Close Conoley, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Mary Ann Takemoto, incoming Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Beth Lesen, Dean of Students Dr. Piya Bose, Chair of Academic Senate Jessica Pandya, all current ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, 22 West Magazine, Cal State Student Association President Michael Wiafe, CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White, CSU Board of Trustees Chair Adam Day, and College Board Chief Executive Officer David Coleman.

DocuSigned by:

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

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:
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Lizbeth Velasquez, Associated Students President

5/15/2020
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