

BOD 2021-22

12R Resolution to Support Senate Bill 641: CalFresh for College Students Act

WHEREAS, Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) of California State University, East Bay (CSUEB) is the recognized voice of approximately 14,000 students; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the ASI Board of Directors to advocate and provide responsible and effective leadership for a diverse student population in order to make sound decisions for the betterment of CSUEB students; and

WHEREAS, the CSUEB ASI Policy Agenda for 2021-2022 states that “basic needs, such as food, financial, and housing security, will be a priority,” Specifically priority #1 subheading Mental Health and Wellness “The Director of Wellness and Director of Programming Council will work closely together to ensure that mental health resources and programming are available to students.”¹

WHEREAS, A step in extending our support to marginalized communities is making sure we educate ourselves on the topics involving the communities we stand as allies to; and

WHEREAS, College students in California go hungry at an alarming rate. The Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO), in their 2019-2020 report, stated that 44% of undergraduates and 26% of graduate students in CA experience food insecurity²; and

WHEREAS, These numbers are even worse for community college students. Food insecurity negatively impacts academic careers making students more likely to drop out before graduating; and

WHEREAS, SB 641: CalFresh for College Students Act focuses on continuing to remove the barriers to college students seeking to access CalFresh food assistance Specifically, SB 641:

¹ California State University, East Bay. Policy Agenda. Retrieved from:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1peXAn0YsvQx87qOm7Euyceg4Pj3oRamKMwaYxJ76jro/edit>

² Bill Text for SB: 641 CalFresh for College Students Act. Retrieved from:
[Bill Text - SB-641 CalFresh for College Students Act.](#)



Codifies recommendations from the College Hunger Working Group established by AB 1930 (Skinner, 2014) While the Department of Social Services (DSS) has issued regulations based on these recommendations, SB 641 proposes to make them law to ensure that eligible college students have better access to CalFresh benefits; and

WHEREAS, SB 641 requires counties and DSS to report the number of students participating in CalFresh. Requires DSS to estimate the additional funds needed to serve all college students currently eligible for CalFresh, along with an estimate on administrative savings that would result if the Federal EATS Act by Representative Jimmy Gomez (D-CA) were to become law³; and

WHEREAS, SB 641 Requires DSS to convene a workgroup to determine how to establish a CalFresh process that can accommodate the influx of applications received during the beginning of a college term in counties where large numbers of students reside; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That CSUEB ASI supports finding ways to reduce food insecurities among our students. We actively seek to ensure our students get the necessary tools they need to be successful; and let it be further,

RESOLVED, that CSUEB ASI encourages the California State Student Association to continue their support for the bill, and urges the rest of the California State University and the University of California to follow and end the stigma around governmental assistance; and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Nancy Skinner, Alameda Food Bank, the CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, our University President, Vice President for Student Affairs, Coordinator of the Diversity, Diversity and Inclusion Center, Executive Director for International Programs, President of the California State Student Association, Vice President of Legislative Affairs of the California State Student Association, President of the University of California Student Association, digitally to all students, and any other relevant parties.


³ Bill Text for SB: 641 CalFresh for College Students Act. Retrieved from: [Bill Text - SB-641 CalFresh for College Students Act.](#)



Authored by: Jasmine Domino, *Director of Legislative Affairs*

Approved On:

ASI President/CEO does hereby [] *approves* / [] *refuses to approve* this resolution.


ANJELICA DE LEON (May 3, 2022 15:40 PDT)
Anjelica de Leon
ASI President/CEO


Jasmine Domino (May 3, 2022 21:38 PDT)
Jasmine Domino
ASI Director of Legislative Affairs

Approved by: ASI Board of Directors 2021-2022

