Proposition 76: State Spending and School Funding Limits

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) oppose passage of Proposition 76, “State Spending and School Funding Limits” (also known as the “California Live Within Our Means Act”), an initiative constitutional amendment that will appear on the ballot of the November 8 special election; and be it further

RESOLVED: That it be noted that this resolution reaffirms a similar resolution (AS-2696-05) passed unanimously by the Academic Senate CSU in May 2005; and be it further

RESOLVED: That CSU campus senates be encouraged to adopt positions opposing passage of Proposition 76; and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to the Chancellor, all members of the Board of Trustees, CSU campus senate chairs, the Governor, leaders of the Legislature, the California Faculty Association (CFA), and the California State Student Association (CSSA); and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU request the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees to issue a statement of opposition to this proposed initiative.

RATIONALE: Proposition 76, if passed, will make changes to the California Constitution related to state spending limits, school funding requirements (Proposition 98), and the budget process. In Spring 2005, the Los Angeles Times called such a constitutional amendment “a really bad idea.” These changes potentially endanger the ability of the CSU to achieve the budget priorities endorsed by the Academic Senate CSU and impairing the CSU’s ability to effectively serve its students.

This resolution reaffirms the Academic Senate CSU position taken in the previous resolution AS-2696-05/FGA (attached) passed unanimously by the Academic Senate CSU in May 2005. That resolution was directed at the possibility that an initiative similar to Proposition 76 might appear on the November ballot.

Approved Unanimously – September 16, 2005
RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) oppose passage of the “California Live Within Our Means Act,” an initiative constitutional amendment, which may appear on the ballot of a special election in November; and be it further

RESOLVED: That, should this appear on the November 2005 ballot, the Academic Senate CSU request the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees to issue a statement of opposition to this proposed initiative; and be it further

RESOLVED: That, should this appear on the November 2005 ballot, the Academic Senate CSU work with other groups to oppose passage of this amendment; and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to the Chancellor, all members of the Board of Trustees, the governor, the leaders of the Legislature, the California Faculty Association, and the California State Student Association.

RATIONALE: The California Live Within Our Means Act has been called by the Los Angeles Times “a really bad idea.” It would make changes to the California Constitution related to a new state spending limit, Proposition 98 funding, and the budget process. These could endanger the ability of the California State University to achieve the budget priorities endorsed by the Academic Senate of the California State University and effectively serve our students.

Approved Unanimously – May 5-6, 2005