Senate Bill: 2011-12-11
Date: December 01, 2011
Authored by: Senators Gjemso, Pavlova, Livingston
Referred to: External Affairs Committee
Action Taken: Senate approved on 12/06/11 (votes: 17-0-1)

Subject: Opposition to the Nine Percent Tuition Increase for Fall 2012

1) WHEREAS: The Associated Students, Inc. is the official voice of students at California State University, Northridge; and

2) WHEREAS: The Associated Students, Inc. is the primary advocate for students at California State University, Northridge and provides excellent, meaningful programs and services designed to create and enhance a spirited, learning focused campus environment; and

3) WHEREAS: On Wednesday, November 16, 2011 the California State University Board of Trustees approved a nine percent tuition increase at a meeting in Long Beach with a 4-3 vote, and the full board adopted the proposal Wednesday afternoon with a 9-6 vote; and

4) WHEREAS: According to CSU officials, the tuition hike is needed to restore access, course sections and student services; and

5) WHEREAS: The tuition hike would amount to $498 per year for undergraduates, $582 for credential program participants and $618 for graduate students; and

6) WHEREAS: Tuition and fees for CSUN have increased by over 43 percent in recent years, due in part to budget cuts, making it the ninth largest in tuition growth for a public, four-year university in the country; and

7) WHEREAS: This nine percent increase will impact CSUN students negatively as a possible “trigger” cut that would reduce funding another $100 million if state revenues do not match estimated projections, of $4 billion over the next few months; and
WHEREAS: According to the Institute of Educational Sciences only about ten percent of newly admitted freshman will succeed in the completion of a bachelor's degree within a four year period; and

WHEREAS: This nine percent tuition fee increase will represent a great struggle to every single student looking to achieve their educational goals but specifically to first-time freshmen who wish to pursue a four year graduation plan; and

WHEREAS: That the Board of Trustees is appointed to protect the interests of CSU students and to advocate for a socially responsible and fiscally accountable budget proposal that supports the constituents while addressing students’ financial needs; and let it be further

RESOLVED: That the Associated Students at California State University, Northridge feels that the CSU Board of Trustees has not effectively advocated the CSU students’ interests with this increase; and let it be further

RESOLVED: That the Associated Students, Inc. strongly oppose the nine percent tuition fee increase for the Spring 2012 term; and let it be finally

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be distributed widely, including but not limited to the following:

- Dr. Charles Reed, Chancellor, California State University
- Dr. Jolene Koester, President, California State University, Northridge
- Vice Presidents, California State University, Northridge
- Academic Senate, California State University, Northridge
- Members, California State Student Association
- Members, United States Student Association
- The American College Personnel Association
- The Association of American Colleges and Universities
- John Hopkins University Student Government Association
- The CSU Board of Trustees
- The Daily Sundial

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Amanda Flavin                  Sydni Powell
President, 2011-2012           Vice President, 2011-2012