

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

**Bill Number:** Senate Resolution #2019-16  
**Title:** Increased Support for Housing Insecure and Homeless Students  
**Sponsored by:** Vice President Leen Almahdi and Senator-at-Large Aaron Jordan  
**Date Submitted:** April 18, 2019  
**Date Approved:** May 8, 2019

- 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** the CSULB ASI mission states: “The Associated Students of CSULB seeks to facilitate the achievement of students’ educational objectives and life goals through programs, services, and facilities that advocate student needs and interests;<sup>1</sup>” and
- WHEREAS** in 2017 Los Angeles County reported over 55,000 people are struggling with homelessness with an estimate of over 15,700 people living in their vehicles;<sup>2</sup> and
- WHEREAS** one in ten students within the California State University (CSU) system are experiencing homelessness, and two in five face food instability, with one in five of those students facing very low food security;<sup>3</sup> and
- WHEREAS** as of March 2019, the average rent for a one bedroom apartment in Long Beach was \$2,092, a 12% increase from March 2018,<sup>4</sup> showing a stark decline in housing affordability citywide and exhibiting the housing crisis that the City of Long Beach is facing;<sup>5</sup> and
- WHEREAS** that approximately 10% of the renters in Long Beach are comprised of students; and
- WHEREAS** students of CSULB are seeking to increase awareness and advocacy on campus and throughout the City of Long Beach, including increases in campus resources and advocating for citywide relief for housing insecurity and homelessness;<sup>6</sup> and
- WHEREAS** there is a need to destigmatize the experience of student homelessness and housing insecurity through increased education, humanization, and awareness;<sup>7</sup> and
- WHEREAS** every student at CSULB deserves the dignity of stable, affordable, and safe housing regardless of their socioeconomic status; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will continue to raise awareness regarding housing insecurity and expand efforts through the work of the Social Justice and Equity Committee (SJEC) and the Commissioner for Wellness Affairs; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will advocate for long-term housing solutions where students do not have to exhaust loans before qualifying for emergency housing and assistance; and be it further

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

<sup>2</sup> <https://usc.data.socrata.com/stories/s/Homelessness-in-2018-A-Snapshot-of-Los-Angeles-Cou/g8ge-um6u/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy\\_phaseII\\_withAccessibilityComments.pdf](https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.rentjungle.com/average-rent-in-long-beach-rent-trends/>

<sup>5</sup> [https://downtownlongbeach.org/wp-content/uploads/2018.02.16\\_DLBDReport\\_Final-1.pdf](https://downtownlongbeach.org/wp-content/uploads/2018.02.16_DLBDReport_Final-1.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.csulb.edu/news/article/students-faculty-experience-daily-struggles-for-low-income-families>

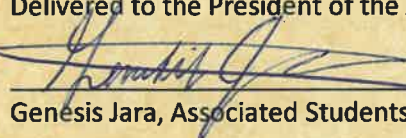
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-long-beach-patrols-20181102-story.html>

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- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will continue to lobby local and state legislators in favor of legislation that will help alleviate student homelessness within the CSU system; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will work alongside the executive director for housing to explore the idea of developing housing scholarships for students; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will consistently support the students' needs for affordable housing by advocating for more affordable housing units in buildings intended for the students, including but not limited to the CSULB Downtown Village;<sup>8</sup> and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will provide unbiased information to the student body regarding any potential ballot measures concerning housing in Long Beach through the efforts of Lobby Corps and SJEC; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI will make an active effort to decrease the stigma surrounding student homelessness by providing resources regarding this issue from local nonprofits, including but not limited to United Way-Everyone In, Long Beach Forward, Housing Long Beach, SCANPH, LINC Housing, and the Long Beach Gray Panthers as needed; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI supports any student engagement surrounding destigmatizing housing insecurity and educating the campus community about legislation and housing policy; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI encourages the University to support efforts in building and maintaining affordable housing intended for students; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI asks the University to highlight organizations on the Basic Needs website that can help transition people who have endured both long and short term housing insecurity, and organizations that provide opportunities for students to engage in advocacy for homelessness; and be it finally
- RESOLVED** that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon its approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Jane Conoley, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Ann Takemoto, Dean of Students Piya Bose, Director of Basic Needs Ken Kelly, all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Media.

  
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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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 Genesis Jara, Associated Students President

5/8/19  
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 Date  
 5/8/19  
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 Date

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<sup>8</sup> <http://daily49er.com/news/2018/08/29/mavor-presents-plan-for-new-dormitory-space-in-downtown-long-beach/>