

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

Bill Number: Senate Resolution #2021-01
Title: ASI Stance on Select California Statewide Ballot Measures
Sponsored by: Vice President Maythe Alderete Gonzalez, Senators-at-Large Sumaiyah Hossain, Alyssa Castrillon, and Isabelle Cameron, College of the Arts Senators Andrea Felix-Cervantes and Billy Rubi, College of Liberal Arts Senators Salvador Peregrina and Millaray Ramirez, Senator for the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Jubilee Muñozvilla, and College of Health & Human Services Senator Milena Gevorkian
Date Submitted: October 2, 2020
Date Approved: October 14, 2020

WHEREAS the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) Board of Directors at California State University, Long Beach is the recognized voice for over 38,000 students; and

WHEREAS that it is the responsibility of the ASI Board of Directors at CSULB to ensure that California Statewide Ballot measures serve the interest of CSULB's students; and

WHEREAS that it is the responsibility of the ASI Lobby Corps to track "legislation concerning students" and to commit to ensuring students' voices are heard on all levels;¹ and

WHEREAS the U.S. General Election occurring November 3, 2020 will include 12 ballot measures, not including Proposition 13 that was voted on in March 2020; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the CSULB ASI Board of Directors formally take a position on the following statewide ballot measures:

- **Support** - Proposition 16: Allows Diversity as a Factor in Public Employment, Education, and Contracting Decisions (Legislative Constitutional Amendment)
- **Support** - Proposition 17: Restores Right to Vote After Completion of Prison Term (Legislative Constitutional Amendment)
- **Support** - Proposition 18: Amends California Constitution to Permit 17-Year Olds to Vote in the Primary and Special Elections if They Will Turn 18 by the Next General Election and Be Otherwise Eligible to Vote (Legislative Constitutional Amendment)
- **Oppose** - Proposition 20: Restricts Parole for Certain Offenders Currently Considered to Be Non-Violent, and Authorizes Felony Sentences for Certain Offenses. Currently Treated Only as Misdemeanors (Initiative Statute)
- **Support** - Proposition 25: Referendum on Law That Replaced Money Bail With System Based on Public Safety and Flight Risk; and be it further

RESOLVED that CSULB ASI Senate and Lobby Corps shall advocate for the support of the

¹ <https://www.asicsulb.org/gov/legislative-branch/lobby-corps>

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above-mentioned ballot measures, in compliance with rules and regulations stipulating limits on direct legislative activity among non-profit organizations organized under Section 501©3 of the Internal Revenue Code; and be it finally

RESOLVED that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President, be distributed to Governor Gavin Newsom, CSULB President Jane Conoley, Provost Brian Jersky, Vice President for Student Affairs Beth Lessen, Dean of Students Piya Bose, Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, Long Beach City Council Members, the Cal State Student Association, all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Media.

DocuSigned by:
Maythe Alderete Gonzales
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Maythe Alderete Gonzales, Vice President &
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

10/27/2020

DocuSigned by:
Omar Prudencio Gonzalez
8639C8BD A91940D...

Omar Prudencio Gonzalez, Associated Students President

Date
10/27/2020

Date

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BALLOT MEASURE SUMMARY

PROPOSITION 16: Allows Diversity as a Factor in Public Employment, Education, and Contracting Decisions

This proposition would repeal Proposition 209 (1996), allowing voters to reinstate affirmative action programs and establish equal opportunity programs. Proposition 209 was implemented to solve discriminatory procedures; however, it overlooked systemic racism and contributed to wealth accumulation. Proposition 16 would allow California to consider race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin concerning government contracts, education, and hiring.² It would enhance the diverse student population and workforce within public higher education systems to reflect California's population.

PROPOSITION 17: Restores Right to Vote After Completion of Prison Term

Proposition 17 entails the restoration of voting rights to individuals on parole, who have completed their prior prison sentences, following a felony conviction. Allows parolees to run for office if they are not convicted of perjury or bribery and are registered to vote. A fiscal impact would result in an increase in funding for ballot materials and resources to support more voting members. Constitutional changes that would be made concern: Article II Section 2b: granting voting rights to individuals on parole and Article II Section 4: retracting disqualification of individuals on parole and reinstating their voting rights.

PROPOSITION 18: Amends California Constitution to Permit 17-Year Olds to Vote in the Primary and Special Elections if They Will Turn 18 by the Next General Election and Be Otherwise Eligible to Vote

This proposition is a state legislative constitutional amendment that permits 17-year olds to vote in primary and special elections if they are 18-years old by the general election. Proposition 18 would allow for this demographic to vote for the presidential candidate, important state measures, and to fill state seat vacancies. Earlier civic engagement by encouraging voter registration and education in high school correlates to higher youth voter turnout allowing for voting to be equitable with respect to race, ethnicity, and socio-economic level.³

PROPOSITION 20: Restricts Parole for Certain Offenders Currently Considered to Be Non-Violent, and Authorizes Felony Sentences for Certain Offenses Currently Treated Only as Misdemeanors

Proposition 20 is designed to change criminal sentencing and supervision policies in California by redressing three previous measures: AB 109 (2011), Proposition 47 (2014), and Proposition 57 (2016). This proposition would allow crimes previously chargeable only as misdemeanors (i.e. firearm theft, vehicle theft, serial shoplifting, etc.) to be charged as either a misdemeanor or felony, which would limit their opportunity to apply for parole and potentially extend their jail sentence. A large majority of prisoners are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and this proposition would increase the BIPOC incarcerated population.⁴

² [https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_16,_Repeal_Proposition_209_Affirmative_Action_Amendment_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_16,_Repeal_Proposition_209_Affirmative_Action_Amendment_(2020))

³ <https://circle.tufts.edu/latest-research/youth-who-learned-about-voting-high-school-more-likely-become-informed-and-engaged>

⁴ <https://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-prison-population/#:~:text=In%202017%2C%20the%20year%20of,which%20is%20422%20per%20100%2C000>

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PROPOSITION 25: Referendum on Law That Replaced Money Bail With System Based on Public Safety and Flight Risk

Proposition 25 seeks to uphold the contested legislation, replacing cash bail with a risk assessment model that puts the decision to release most inmates into the hands of judges.⁵ The contested legislation in question was a veto referendum that was filed to repeal the bill that former Governor Jerry Brown signed in 2018 wanting to eliminate the cash bail system. Proposition 25 would end the money bail system which the current system treats those with financial means differently from those without it. Individuals who cannot afford bail may have to wait months or even years for their day in court and in California over tens of thousands of individuals sit in jail for no other reason than their inability to pay their bail or purchase a bond.

⁵ <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/story/2020-09-23/no-on-proposition-25-bail-bond-jail>