



Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles, Associated Students, Incorporated

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIP
ASSEMBLY BILLS 1500 & 1501**

Authored by Addison Peterson, Community Affairs Representative

WHEREAS, the Associated Students, Incorporated (A.S.I.) is the single recognized voice for nearly 20,000 students at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA); and

WHEREAS, A.S.I. recognizes public education is a right and not a privilege and that the promise of free or affordable public education in the California Master Plan for Higher Education is one of the greatest democratic achievements in California's history; and

WHEREAS, the CSU system has recently suffered a \$750 million cut and is in danger of suffering another \$200 million cut if the California Sales and Income Tax Increase Initiative does not pass as a ballot measure; and

WHEREAS, the budget cuts represent a threat to students' right to a public education, particularly middle class students who face increased fees without the benefit of financial aid; and

WHEREAS, Since 2003, CSU fees have jumped 191% forcing middle class students, who do not receive financial assistance, to take on heavy debt to get their degree; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Scholarship, Assembly Bill 1500 would close a \$1 billion tax loophole that benefit large, out-of-state corporations; and

WHEREAS, the additional revenue would finance scholarships for students whose families make less than \$150,000 a year but earn too much to qualify for financial aid; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Scholarship, Assembly Bill 1501 would add the Middle Class Scholarship to the education code and help cover 2/3rds of student tuition for families that make less than \$150,000 a year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 150,000 California State University students could be affected by the plan and if eligible, could receive approximately \$4,000 per year to assist with tuition cost; therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, that the A.S.I. supports the Middle Class Scholarship with a commitment of no more than 10% of their resources going towards monetary support of the initiative's campaign; and let it also be



RESOLVED, that the A.S.I. urges all student governments in the CSU systems to support the Middle Class Scholarship and to mobilize their volunteers in their lobbying efforts; and let it finally be

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed, the CSU Board of Trustees, the California State Student Association, the offices of all Associated Students within the CSU system, the offices of all CSU Presidents, the CSULA University Times, Speaker of the California Assembly John Pérez, and California Governor Jerry Brown to inform them of the A.S.I. commitment to supporting this initiative.