

**Senate 2021-22 – 1R**

**Resolution in Support of S.2755 - College Completion Fund Act of 2021**

**WHEREAS**, Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) of California State University, East Bay (CSUEB) is the recognized voice of approximately 14,000 students; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of the ASI Board of Directors to advocate and provide responsible and effective leadership for a diverse student population in order to make sound decisions for the betterment of CSUEB students; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the *CSU's Graduation Initiative 2025*, the system saw equity gaps increase for underrepresented minority students, including Latinos, and low-income students. The gap in graduation rates for underrepresented minority students is a 12.4 percentage point difference from their peers. And for low-income students, it's a 10.2 percentage point difference from their peers<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, “with 76.0% of students making it past their freshman year, California State University - East Bay has freshman retention rates above the national average. Nationwide, the average first year to second year retention rate is 69.0% . When looking at just colleges and universities in California , the average is 74.0%”<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, “S.2755 - College Completion Fund Act of 2021 would authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to States to empower public institutions of higher education in the States to provide student support services to students from low-income backgrounds, historically

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<sup>1</sup>EdSource Highlighting Strategies for Students Success. *CSU graduation rates steadily improve despite pandemic; equity concerns remain*. Retrieved from: <https://edsources.org/2021/csu-graduation-rates-steadily-improve-despite-pandemic-equity-concerns-remain/662762>

<sup>2</sup>College Factual. *California State University Graduation and Retention Rate*. Retrieved from: <https://www.collegefactual.com/colleges/california-state-university-east-bay/academic-life/graduation-and-retention/>



underrepresented students, first-generation college enrollees, parenting students, students with disabilities, and student veterans”<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, “college and universities will be able to use these funds for a variety of evidence-based and promising practices that support student retention, completion, and success, including:

- Comprehensive academic support services such as faculty, career coaching, and peer counseling
- Collection of real-time data on student progress
- Incentives to keep students on track in their education
- Direct student support such as mental health services, child care, transportation, emergency financial assistance, food and housing assistance, career coaching, and work-based learning opportunities
- Reforms to developmental education, including utilizing career pathways and improving transfer student success”<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, according to *Procedia: Social Behavioral Sciences*, student services can help decrease a university’s dropout rate and increase the diversity of students' experience. Studies show that the most important factors in education quality assurance are: quality of teaching / learning and service systems and support for students<sup>5</sup>; be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that CSUEB ASI supports S.2755 - College Completion Fund Act of 2021.

**RESOLVED**, that the university uses such funding to support campus organizations and services to students from low-income backgrounds, historically underrepresented students, first-generation college enrollees, parenting students, students with disabilities, and student veterans, and let it be further

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<sup>3</sup>GovInfo. *S. 2755 (IS) - College Completion Fund Act of 2021*. Retrieved from: <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/BILLS-117s2755is>

<sup>4</sup>Public Policy Institute of California. *Making College Possible for Low-Income Students*. Retrieved from: [https://www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/content/pubs/report/R\\_1014HJR.pdf](https://www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/content/pubs/report/R_1014HJR.pdf)

<sup>5</sup>Procedia: Social Behavioral Sciences. *The Role of Student Services in the Improving of Student Experience in Higher Education*. Retrieved from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877042813027857>



**RESOLVED**, that the university provides support to students in the areas of mental health, child care, transportation, work-based learning opportunities, food and housing opportunities, and let it be further

**RESOLVED**, that we encourage the university to gather data on students' academic progress and let it be further


**RESOLVED**, that the university uses such data to continue supporting the needs of the previously mentioned student groups and let it be further


**RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be distributed to our University President, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Pioneer, digitally to all students, and any other relevant parties.

Authored by: Erin Quineri, *Senator of Commuter Students*  
Jilian Manlapaz, *Senator at-Large*


Approved On: Thursday, JANUARY 27, 2022

ASI President/CEO does hereby [  ] *approves* / [  ] *refuses to approve* this resolution.

  
ANJELICA DE LEON (Feb 2, 2022 10:46 PST)  
Anjelica de Leon  
*ASI President/CEO*

  
Kristina Caro (Feb 2, 2022 12:57 PST)  
Kristina Caro  
*ASI Chair*

  
Erin Quineri (Feb 1, 2022 14:42 PST)  
Erin Quineri  
*ASI Senator of Commuter Students*

  
Jilian Manlapaz (Feb 1, 2022 14:42 PST)  
Jilian Manlapaz  
*ASI Senator at-Large*

Approved by: ASI Board of Directors 2021-2022

