A Resolution Supporting CSUF Project Rebound

Sponsors: Nick Jakel, Jesse Rodriguez
Co-Sponsors: Saba Ansari, Joshua Borjas

WHEREAS, The Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates as an auxiliary organization of California State University, Fullerton; and

WHEREAS, ASI is governed by the ASI Board of Directors, which sets policy for the organization, approves all funding allocations to programs and services, and advocates on behalf of student interests on committees and boards; and

WHEREAS, ASI provides campus community members with important social, cultural, and recreational opportunities, as well as, a wide range of programs and services; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco State University’s (SFSU) Project Rebound was founded in 1967, with the vision of successfully re-integrating formerly incarcerated individuals into society via higher education, by John Keith Irwin, PhD and a formerly incarcerated individual who taught for 26 years in the Sociology Department at SFSU;¹ and

WHEREAS, since 2016, CSUF, along with eight other California State University campuses—Sacramento, San Bernardino, Fresno, Bakersfield, San Diego, Pomona, Long Beach and Los Angeles—is enrolling formerly incarcerated individuals into the program, assisting students in graduating with baccalaureate degrees, and helping them earn advanced academic degrees;² and

WHEREAS, CSUF currently has eighteen Rebound Scholars with twenty-seven scholars in the pipeline;³ and

WHEREAS, Project Rebound is proven to reduce recidivism and empower individuals through higher education;⁴ and

WHEREAS, the number of Project Rebound students who return to prison is just 3% compared

¹ [http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound/about_us/](http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound/about_us/)
² [http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound/about_us/](http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound/about_us/)
³ [http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound](http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound)
⁴ [http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound](http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound)
to a state average of 61%;⁵ and

WHEREAS, there are over 100,000 people who could benefit from CSU Project Rebound services, but without additional funding, the current model cannot meet this level of demand;⁶ and

WHEREAS, according to The Legislative Analyst’s Office, the State of California, in 2017-2018, allocated $11.3 billion to California Department of Corrections, and Rehabilitation Corrections account for almost 9% of California general funds, while the University of California and the California State University System collectively receive 5.2%;⁷ and

WHEREAS, the United States accounts for 5% of the world’s population yet houses more than 20% of the incarcerated population of the world costing California State tax payers 7.7% of the State budget;⁸ and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Education stated that Congress, in 1994, via a federal crime bill, made incarcerated individuals ineligible to receive Pell Grants, then former President Barack Obama introduced the Second Chance Pell Program that allows incarcerated individuals to apply for student Financial Aid prior to being released so that they may take advantage of educational opportunities upon release to pursue higher education with the goal of helping them get jobs, support their families, and transform;⁹ and

WHEREAS, the Project Rebound Regional Team and Jason Bell, Regional Director of Project Rebound, endorse the replication of this program to all California State University campuses; and

WHEREAS, Project Rebound at San Francisco State University’s 2016 year-end report shows that 95% of formerly incarcerated people who pursue higher education do not recidivate. This program alleviates the problem that leads to high rates of recidivism in way that are cost effective to the State of California and empowering formerly incarcerated and system impacted communities;¹⁰ and

RESOLVED, that ASI will support Project Rebound in reintegrating formerly incarcerated individuals further their education; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that ASI encourages the California State University (CSU) and the Governor of California to endorse, continue to promote through enrollment services and admission applications, and expand Project Rebound as a program to be replicated throughout the

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⁵ http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound/about_us/
⁶ http://www.fullerton.edu/rebound
⁷ http://www.lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/3595
⁸ http://ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2017-18/#/Home
¹⁰ https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Pages/Project-Rebound-Recharges-Human-Potential.aspx
RESOLVED, that ASI urges the CSU Chancellor and Board of Trustees (BOT) to provide funding to this program and ensure that it is part of the Graduation Initiative 2025; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that ASI urges the Governor of California and the California legislature to provide funding for Project Rebound by transferring funds from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and provide sufficient line-item funding to the CSU to support and expand Project Rebound, and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that this Resolution be distributed to the California State Student Association, the Office of Project Rebound, and the following CSU Fullerton departments, divisions, and/or entities for their support and consideration: the Daily Titan Newspaper, Office of the President, the President's Advisory Board, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Office of the Vice President of Administration and Finance, Office of the Vice President for University Advancement, Office of the Dean of Students, and the Academic Senate.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Associated Students, California State University, Fullerton, Inc., on the eighth day of May in the year two thousand and eighteen.

[Signature: Nicholas Jakel]
Chair, Board of Directors

[Signature: Jesse Rodríguez]
Vice Chair/Secretary, Board of Directors

Associated Students, California State University, Fullerton, Inc., President/CEO, does hereby [✓] approve / [    ] refuse to approve this resolution.

[Signature: Laila Dadabhoy]
ASI President/CEO

Date: 5/18/2018