2014-2015

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**Water Sustainability Act**

The Student Senate for California Community Colleges

Region V

February 27, 2015

Submitted by Vice Chairman Dominguez to The Student Senate for California Community Colleges, Region V

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**A Resolution**

Water Sustainability Act

Whereas, the role of a community college is to serve the students and the community as a whole;

Whereas, Region V of The Student Senate for California Community College is comprised of California’s Central Valley region, a region primarily dominated by agriculture and commonly referred to as “The Food Basket of the World”;

Whereas, of Friday, January 17th 2014, California State Governor Jerry Brown declared a drought emergency and asked the people of California to cut back their water usage by at least twenty percent;

Whereas, according the U.S. Drought Monitor, a vast majority of California’s Central Valley is in an “Exceptional Drought” worse than anywhere else in the state;

Whereas, according to a study by the University of California, Davis, the cost of the drought and resulting water shortages is at 1.7 billion in the Central Valley alone;

Whereas, according to the Kern County Farm Bureau, this year’s federal water deliveries were cut from twelve percent to zero percent and state water deliveries were cut from twenty-one percent to five percent.

Whereas, the continued work through out Region V is resulting in the constant finding of more research and information that proves the urgency of this issue to the Central Valley and the entire state of California.

Be it resolved by Region V of The Student Senate for California Community Colleges,

1. Our Region will lead the way in drought relief and water sustainability techniques by asking the colleges in Region V to create and facilitate a standing committee on water sustainability on their college campus involving a representative from the college’s ASO and other college administrators and faculty. In the event that a campus has an active committee on water sustainability, the college ASO shall place a representative on this committee. Local ASO’s will stand behind and advocate for water conservation and sustainability on campus in both long term and short-term methods such as “browning” lawns, moving towards waterless urinals, increased water storage and other such techniques;

Be it further resolved by Region V of The Student Senate for California Community Colleges,

1. If the funds and time permit, each community college shall “adopt a school” in a water deprived community and will hold a fundraiser to collect water products and other water sustainability instruments in order to help the students of this community through the drought conditions of our region;

Be it further resolved by Region V of The Student Senate for California Community Colleges,

1. Our Region Vice Chairman Dominguez and other volunteers will work with local Region V ASO’s in order to help them educate their students and the general public on the issues at hand in the form of planning a “Water Rally” on campus or by creating relationships with water sustainability groups and hosting them on campus and will also help the ASO provide transparency on how the college campus is cutting back and the status of any projects on campus pertaining to water conservation and sustainability.

Be it further resolved by Region V of The Student Senate for California Community Colleges,

1. We respectfully request that the Secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to the President and Council of The Student Senate for California Community Colleges and to each College President of Region V. We also respectfully request the Vice Chairman of Region V transmit a copy of this resolution to each state and federal elected official in Region V.

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Matthew Christman Alexander N. Dominguez

Region V Chairman Region V Vice Chairman