

1 **San José State University**  
2 **One Washington Square**  
3 **San Jose, CA 95192**  
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6 **AS 1887 Sense of the Senate Statement of Solidarity with the Sonoma State Community**

7 **WHEREAS**, the California State University System [CSU] is made up of 22 individual campuses  
8 and each campus has a unique history and educational environment; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the CSU is to encourage and provide access to an excellent  
10 education to all who are prepared for and wish to participate in collegiate study, in pursuit of  
11 providing public services that enrich the university and its communities; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the CSU seeks to accomplish that mission by

- 13 - emphasizing quality in instruction
- 14 - providing an environment in which scholarship, research, creative, artistic, and professional  
15 activity are valued and supported
- 16 - seeking out individuals with collegiate promise who face cultural, geographical, physical,  
17 educational, financial, or personal barriers to assist them in advancing to the highest  
18 educational levels they can reach
- 19 - serving communities as educational, public service, cultural, and artistic centers in ways  
20 appropriate to campus locations and emphases
- 21 - recognizing and valuing the distinctive history, culture, and mission of each campus; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Sonoma State University [SSU] is one of those campuses, with a long history of  
23 educating nurses, teachers, social workers, business owners and community leaders; and

24 **WHEREAS**, over half of SSU's alumni live and work within 50 miles of the campus, clearly  
25 aligned with the mission of the CSU; and

26 **WHEREAS**, on Wednesday 22 January, absent adequate notice or communication, Interim  
27 SSU President Cutrer and Chancellor Garcia eliminated over 25% of the SSU workforce.  
28 The devastation includes elimination of 23 academic programs, closure of 6 departments,  
29 merger of another 7 departments, and termination of all of SSU's NCAA Division II athletic  
30 programs; and

31 **WHEREAS**, SSU students will be left stranded, scrambling for ways to complete their degrees;  
32 and

33 **WHEREAS**, SSU faculty, coaches, staff, students and their families live and work in the local  
34 community. These cuts to jobs and educational opportunities will have deep and lasting  
35 impacts on those communities at a time of vastly increased national insecurity; and

36  
37 **WHEREAS**, the decision to gut SSU to resolve an artificially inflated short term budget  
38 challenge has a harsh and negative impact on the lives of students who have an inalienable  
39 right to a quality public higher education; and

40  
41 **WHEREAS**; The Academic Senate of Stanislaus State has passed a resolution of support for  
42 Sonoma State (on which this resolution is based)

43 **WHEREAS**, SSU and its community should not capriciously be punished for the revolving  
44 door of bad management, sexual harassment scandals, devastating fires, the COVID  
45 pandemic and significant expenses associated with those events; therefore be it

46 **RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate of SJSU urges Interim President Cutrer, Chancellor  
47 Garcia and the CSU Board of Trustees to adhere to the stated mission of the CSU to provide  
48 public higher education as a public good and to immediately freeze all of the closure actions at  
49 SSU;

50 **RESOLVED**, the Academic Senate of SJSU urges CSU-wide leadership to employ  
51 collaborative decision-making for all proposed changes. Collaborative processes ensure that  
52 diverse voices are included in consequential decisions. Collaborative decision-making promotes  
53 equity, fairness, and balanced outcomes;

54 **RESOLVED**, that the SJSU community supports the SSU community in efforts to reverse  
55 the Interim President's and Chancellor's plan to eviscerate a critical contributor to  
56 California's public higher education system; and be it finally

57 **RESOLVED**, that this resolution be distributed to the following with request to share widely:

- 58 - Governor Gavin Newsom
- 59 - Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
- 60 - Senate Pro Tem Mike McGuire
- 61 - Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
- 62 - Senate Education Committee Chair Al Muratsuchi
- 63 - Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Chair Scott Wiener
- 64 - Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee 1 Chair John Laird
- 65 - Assembly Higher Education Committee Chair Mike Fong
- 66 - Assembly Budget Committee Chair Jesse Gabriel
- 67 - Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 Chair David Alvarez
- 68 - CSU Board of Trustees
- 69 - Chancellor Mildred Garcia
- 70 - Academic Senate of the CSU Chair Elizabeth Boyd
- 71 - California State Students Association President Iese Esera
- 72 - Interim SSU President Emily Cutrer

- 73 - SSU Academic Senate Chair Emily Acosta Lewis
- 74 - California Faculty Association
- 75 - California State University Employees Union
- 76 - Teamsters Local 2010
- 77 - UAW - Academic Student Employees