

Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2021

- I. CALL TO ORDER at **12:04 PM**
- II. ROLL CALL
Present: Jessica Iheaso, Arazeli Barragan, Jillian Manlapaz, Aa'ishah Riaz
Late: Noor Kaur
Absent: Anjelica de Leon
- III. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Agenda for March 11, 2021**
Motion to approve the agenda by **A. Riaz**, second **A. Barragan**.
- IV. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2021**
Move to approve the minutes from February 25, 2021 by **J. Manlapaz**, second by **A. Riaz**.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT – **Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the Board on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.**
No public comment.
- VI. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS
 - A. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 245](#)
The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.
J. Iheaso states that she wants the committee to be aware of the bills that are being supported by CSSA to stay up to date with legislation that may affect the campus. AB 245 is the Educational equity bill and it has to do with student record name and gender changes. Essentially, this bill will allow student records to reflect a student's gender or name change. This is not specific to only people who have gone through the legal processes, but people in general that changed their name. **A. Riaz** asks how the bill will be implemented. **J. Iheaso** states that as CSSA, there is agreement to support the bill. The voices of all the CSU students are supporting this bill. The goal is to have our legislators support this bill so that it can be enacted. Right now, this bill is a proposal and still needs to be voted on. CSSA as a whole is in support of this bill. The bill will not be enacted until it is voted on and voting will happen in May. I want everyone to be away of these bills. If you all have things that you would like to create into

resolutions for our campus regardless of the bill, it something that can be discussed. It will be up to the Board of Directors to pass resolutions. **N. Kaur** asks if the campus needs to change the names on certificates or transcript if the student has gone through a name change. **J. Iheaso** states that if a student has gone through a name change, the bill states that by law, the school has to allow those changes to be reflected on student’s academic records. For example, if I had gone through a name change, but did not change it legally, I can tell the school to change my name. It will have to be done regardless. **A. Riaz** states that when the bill is passed, the information should be shared and made accessible to students to fill out forms. I have a friend that wanted to do this, except, they had a difficult time filling out the forms. It was a tedious process, which is not okay. Can we make this campus wide so that all students are aware of this? **J. Iheaso** states that it is something that should be promoted. A lot of things do get lost when things are enacted. We will know by the time it is enacted, we can see what we can do as a committee. The bill will start in 2023. I can see if we can start creating resolutions on these things that way regardless of the bill passing, our campus will be taking the initiative to inform students that they are able to do this.

9:48

B. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 53](#)

The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.

J. Iheaso states that AB 53 is the election day holiday bill. This bill will be making election day a holiday. Any election day will be changed to a holiday. There are elections every two years and, on those days, it would be a holiday so that students can go out to vote without classes being an issue. On the years that there are elections, students will be in school President’s day, but will have a holiday on election day. CSSA is supporting this bill. This will give students the opportunity to be civically engaged and participate in elections, without classes as a barrier.

11:28

C. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 940](#)

The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.

J. Iheaso states that AB 940 is the College Mental Health Services Program. This bill will be allocating funds from Proposition 63 to mental health services and resources for colleges. We all know how important this is and it is a great bill. Many of the issues with implementing bills is finding money, but this is perfect. It is taking money from a specific area and allows it to go towards mental health services for our campuses.

12:44

D. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 396](#)

The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.

J. Iheaso states that AB 396 has to do with Cal Fresh Educational Programs. The point of this bill is to provide more jobs to students so that they may qualify for Cal Fresh. We want as many students to qualify for Cal Fresh as possible. **A. Riaz** asks if the jobs will be open to all students or students that have federal work study. **J. Iheaso** states that this is for all colleges. I am not sure if it pertains to work study. **N. Kaur** asks what the bill is asking for. **J. Iheaso** states that from her understanding, the purpose of the bill is to create educational programs that allow for more students to be eligible to qualify for Cal Fresh. More jobs will be offered to students.

N. Kaur states that she understands. If you do not work, the state does not approve you for Cal Fresh. If you work, twenty-hours, it is a requirement for Cal Fresh. **J. Iheaso** states that there is information written at the bottom. The bill will create more jobs for people to apply to be eligible for Cal Fresh.

16:43

E. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 288](#)

The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.

J. Iheaso states that AB 288 is the California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 202. We met with Assembly member Bond's staff this past week. This bill will ban the scholarship displacement. Currently, if you have government aid and apply for an outside scholarship, the amount of aid that you are given will decrease. This affects lower income students. Students will have the opportunity to have the same amount of government aid and still apply for scholarships without having their aid decrease. It makes no sense that if you are receiving more money for scholarships, you receive less aid. I hope that this bill passes and CSSA is in support of it as well.

18:41

F. INFORMATION ITEM- [AB 367](#)

The Chair will discuss the proposed bill being supported by CSSA.

J. Iheaso states that this bill is the Menstrual Equity Act. This bill will require for all schools to supply half of their on-campus restrooms with menstrual products. We are excited for this bill because access of menstrual products should not be something that you need to provide for yourself. Women do not have control over this and having this mandated will require all of our campuses to supply menstrual products. ASI initially proposed a resolution to have half of our bathrooms supplied with menstrual products. Because of this bill, ASI is taking a step back to see how things will play out. It should be the school's responsibility and not ASI's to supply



menstrual products for students. This ties in with basic needs and equity. We are in support of this bill. **A. Barragan** asks will the bill include gender neutral bathrooms. There are some people that are not women that do menstruate. **J. Iheaso** states that she was thinking of that as well. Many people menstruate and do not identify as women. This is something that should be considered. If this were to be enacted, it will be the responsibility of the campuses to decide how to distribute them. For our campus, we have gender neutral restrooms and they products will be in them. There was talk about having them next to restrooms and not in one so that they are accessible to everyone. Most campuses have gender neutral bathrooms. The campus will be responsible for the logistics of this and how to distribute them. **J. Manlapaz** states that on other campuses, when these items are available to everyone, sometimes people will take too many. When the school implements this, there could be a sign that asks people to take as much needed for the day. **J. Iheaso** states that what J. Manlapaz mentioned was discussed during an ASI meeting. When we were talking about having this on our campus within the next year, the issue of people taking more than they need was mentioned. A point that was made was that those that do take more than needed might actually need it. People become excited and think things are temporary, but when it is consistently being refilled, over time, students will not take as much. Some of the restrooms have the containers that should b filled with menstrual products, but they have been empty for as long as I can remember. We are hoping that if this is passed, we can hold our campus accountable to make sure that the menstrual products are being refilled before students feel the need to take too many. I am excited for this and I hope that it passes.

25:06

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS

Director of Legislative Affairs Updates

J. Iheaso states that CHESS was a week ago. We met with different Legislators which was great. We met with two Senators in person and the rest were with staff. We were able to talk about Fix Financial Aid and the budget requests. They were all susceptible to us and they were on the same page. During our meeting with Senator Glazier, he talked about the Cal Promise Program and how he is writing a bill to build upon the initial Cal Promise bill, which requires campuses to increase the amount of people in the Cal Promise Program by five percent yearly. His reason behind that was that the program is available, but not many students are joining because they are unaware that the program exists. The program allows students to graduate in four years. Students receive academic advising, priority registration, and more resources for students to graduate in a timely manner. It begins in freshman year and it is available for transfer students. The bill will ensure that campuses advertise it to students to join if needed. I will be attempting to see if the bill can be brought up to CSSA for support. If so, it will be another bill that CSSA will be supporting and hopefully, legislature will pass this. I will be writing



new resolutions for our campus. I know we talked about the international students issues and I will look into resolutions that have been written for international students. I will see what has and has not been done. I will try to see how we can hold people accountable and what can be done in regards to providing international students with the support needed and addressing their issues. I will be working an African-American faculty hire cluster resolution. This will allow faculty to be represented by a diverse institution. It will be great to hire Black faculty and diverse faculty.

29:03

VIII. ROUND TABLE REMARKS
No round table remarks.

IX. ADJOURNMENT at **12:33 PM**

Minutes reviewed by:
Director of Legislative Affairs & Chair
Name: Jessica Iheaso

Jessica Iheaso
Jessica Iheaso (May 13, 2021 10:53 PDT)

Minutes approved on:
05-07-2021
Date

