

8 **SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION**  
9

10 **Requesting the Appointment of a Presidential Task Force on**  
11 **the Needs of Native Students, Staff, and Faculty**  
12

13 **Whereas:** San José State University (SJSU) is committed to the promotion of an  
14 inclusive, safe, supportive, responsive, and equitable educational and  
15 workplace environment for all faculty, staff, and students; and  
16

17 **Whereas:** One of the goals of the California State University (CSU)'s Graduation  
18 Initiative 2025 is to increase graduation rates and eliminate equity gaps<sup>1</sup>;  
19 and  
20

21 **Whereas:** According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), college  
22 enrollment at two-year and four-year educational institutions from 2000 to  
23 2018 has increased for Black and Latinx (Hispanic) students, yet it has not  
24 increased for Native students<sup>2</sup>; and  
25

26 **Whereas:** From 2000 to 2019, the percentage of 18- to 24-year-olds with a  
27 bachelor's degree or higher increased for White, Black, and Latinx  
28 (Hispanic) populations; yet it has not increased for the Native population<sup>3</sup>;  
29 and  
30

31 **Whereas:** CSU and SJSU graduation rates are lower for Native students relative to  
32 other Under Represented Minority (URM) students. The six-year  
33 graduation rate for "all American Indians" is 53.7 percent (versus 55.4  
34 percent for URM) in the CSU, and the six-year rate at SJSU was 57.5  
35 percent (versus 47.2 percent for URM)<sup>4</sup>; and

---

<sup>1</sup><https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/why-the-csu-matters/graduation-initiative-2025/What-Is-Graduation-Initiative-2025>

<sup>2</sup> The National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education* (2020)  
[https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_cpb.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpb.asp)

<sup>3</sup> The National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education* (2020)  
[https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_caa.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_caa.asp)

<sup>4</sup> We note also that inconsistent and inadequate data reporting methods are one of the obstacles to addressing the issues faced by Native populations within the university community.

36  
37 **Whereas:** Task forces on racial discrimination, community safety and policing, and  
38 Asian/Pacific Islander/ Desi American students, have been formed to  
39 assess the university's environment, but none have been established for  
40 Native students, staff, and faculty; therefore be it  
41

42 **Resolved:** That the Academic Senate recommends that the President form a task  
43 force that will include Native faculty, staff, and students, to:  
44

- 45 ● Assess the needs of, and services provided to, Native students,  
46 faculty, and staff
- 47 ● Identify best practices in fostering relationships with Muwekma and  
48 other Native nations with the SJSU Campus
- 49 ● Identify strategies for outreach, advising, and retention of Native  
50 students, faculty, and staff
- 51 ● Identify best practices in serving Native students, faculty, and staff
- 52 ● Evaluate and recommend changes to the mechanisms for data  
53 collection on Native students, faculty, and staff; and be it  
54

55 **Resolved:** That the Native taskforce begin work as soon as feasible, reporting to the  
56 President by the end of Spring 2022, with recommendations on how SJSU  
57 can best serve Native students, faculty, the Muwekma, and the local  
58 Native community; and be it further  
59

60 **Resolved:** That the Native Task Force members be compensated with release time  
61 and/or a stipend to complete the work of gathering data, formulating a  
62 survey, conducting interviews, and writing a report with recommendations.  
63  
64

65 **Approved:** March 15, 2021  
66 **Vote:** 11-0-0  
67 **Present:** Altura, Birrer, de Bourbon, Grosvenor, Higgins, McClory, Millora,  
68 Okamoto, Sasikumar, Taylor, Thompson  
69 **Absent:** Maciejewski  
70

71 **Financial impact:** Resources needed for support staff, and stipend or release time for  
72 faculty.  
73 **Workload impact:** There will be additional workload for those serving on the task  
74 force.