



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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SS-S04-2

At its meeting of February 23, 2004, the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by James Brent.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION
ENDORSEMENT OF PROPOSITION 56**

- Whereas the California constitution is one of only three state constitutions that require state budgets to be passed by a 2/3 majority vote of both houses of the state legislature; and
- Whereas this constitutional provision has led to substantial gridlock. Although the California constitution requires budgets to be passed by June 15, the California budget has been adopted on time only once in the past 10 years, and is often adopted as late as September or October; and
- Whereas this gridlock directly and adversely impacts San Jose State University, in that administrators, deans, department chairs and others frequently must plan for Fall semester without knowing what their budgets will be, severely hampering their ability to make optimal decisions regarding allocation of scarce resources; and
- Whereas Proposition 56 (“State Budget. Related Taxes, and Reserve. Voting Requirements. Penalties”) would lower the requirement for passing a state budget from 2/3 of the votes cast to 55% of the votes cast, thereby greatly increasing the chance that state budgets will be passed on time; be it therefore
- Resolved that the Academic Senate endorses Proposition 56 and urges its passage; be it additionally
- Resolved that the chair of the Academic Senate is encouraged to communicate the Senate’s endorsement of this proposition in any manner that she deems fit.