

**SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE
SAN JOSÉ, CA 95192**

SS-S16-4, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Promoting San José State University's Support of the You Can Play Project

Legislative History: At its meeting of April 25, 2016, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Chair Kimbarow for the Executive Committee.

**Sense of the Senate Resolution
Promoting San José State University's Support of the
You Can Play Project**

Whereas, San José State University is a diverse and inclusive campus dedicated to social justice and ensuring students equal access and opportunity for students to succeed regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, economic status, disability or sexual orientation; and

Whereas, From an early age LGBT persons often experience shunning, hostility, bullying, and even extreme violence when participating in athletics at all levels, creating an unhealthy dynamic where LGBT athletes are closeted, talents are not developed, bigotry is fostered, and athletics becomes a symbol of intolerance.

Whereas, The *You Can Play* project is dedicated to ensuring equality, respect, and safety for all athletes regardless of sexual orientation; and

Whereas, *You Can Play* works to ensure that athletes are judged solely on talent, heart, desire and work ethic and not on the basis of sexual or gender identity; and

Whereas, According to *You Can Play*, sports is one of the realms of society where discrimination and slurs are too frequently tolerated, and

Whereas, Many teammates, coaches, and the broader university community believe that all athletes "who can play" should be welcomed, given equal opportunity, and accorded respect; and

Whereas, A number of college athletic conferences and a number of colleges and universities, including Notre Dame, The Ohio State University, UC Berkeley, Stanford, UCLA and Sacramento State University, have teamed up with *You Can Play* to promote equality in sports by

producing video messages for posting on the *You Can Play* website and played at intercollegiate athletic events; and

Whereas, San José State University Athletics aims to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all student athletes to succeed regardless of their sexual orientation or identity; therefore be it

Resolved, That San José State University actively supports the *You Can Play* project; and be it further

Resolved, That San José State University promote the principles and message of the *You Can Play* project through activities and communications including, but not limited to, the production, use, and distribution (including submission to the *You Can Play* website) of a video reflecting SJSU's commitment to inclusive excellence.

Approved: April 21, 2016 by email vote
Vote: 14-0-1
Present: Kimbarow, Martin, Larochelle, Lanning, Blaylock, Feinstein, Frazier, Backer, Lee, Kaufman, Mathur, Shifflett, Amante, Peter, Heiden
Absent: None