Title: Improving Disability Services, Advocacy, and Community Support

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WHEREAS, the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) serves approximately 120,000 students annually [3], aiming to provide equal opportunities for students with disabilities, who often face challenges in receiving necessary materials, discovering available resources, and feeling a sense of belonging in the community [4];

WHEREAS, students feeling included and supported in their college experience is inversely related to dropout rates [1]; and students with disabilities require additional support and mentorship to achieve their academic goals;

WHEREAS, California Community Colleges are not sufficiently maintaining accommodations for students with disabilities, including updated signage and accessible facilities [2]. Timely repairs and maintenance are essential to ensure students can access all necessary parts of campus; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Senate for California Community Colleges encourages updating policies for staff training, ensuring up-to-date learning accommodations, and hiring Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinators to guide students to available resources;

RESOLVED, that the Student Senate for California Community Colleges will encourage community colleges to schedule annual events during Disability Awareness Month to foster awareness and inclusivity on campus, helping to create a more comfortable learning environment and reduce educational barriers;

RESOLVED, that the Student Senate for California Community Colleges will promote the implementation and maintenance of audible crosswalk indicators, tactile paths, braille labeling, updated accessibility signage, and other accommodations across campuses, enabling students to navigate and access their destinations with greater ease.

[1]

https://www.higheredtoday.org/2020/10/19/higher-educations-challenge-disability-inclusi on-campus/.

[2]

https://www.aacc.nche.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Community_College_Infrastruct

ure Case Making Document.pdf

- [3] https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED610504
- [4] https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ701986