California State University San Marcos Academic Senate Resolution in Support of AB-798 – College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015

WHEREAS: CSU San Marcos established the Cougars Affordable Learning Solution Initiative (CALM) in Fall 2013 that was funded by the CSU's Affordable Learning Solutions program and encouraged CSUSM faculty to consider using high quality, low cost or no cost, accessible text book alternatives; and

WHEREAS: The efforts of CSUSM faculty members and the CALM program have already saved CSUSM students over \$1.2 million dollars; and

WHEREAS: Assembly Bill 798, "College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015" (AB-798) was signed into law on October 8, 2015 by the Governor of the State of California, establishing the Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program and grants up to \$50,000 per campus; and

WHEREAS: To be eligible for the grant funds, AB-798 requires the local academic senate to adopt a resolution in support of increasing student access to high-quality open educational resources and approve a plan in collaboration with students and campus administration that meets the Program's requirements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate support Assembly Bill 798, "College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015," which calls for campuses to "Increase student access to high-quality open educational resources and reduce the cost of textbooks and supplies for students in course sections for which open educational resources are to be adopted to accomplish cost savings for students."; and

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate urges all faculty to explore ways to increase the use of high quality, low cost or no cost, accessible instruction materials alternatives and consider participating in the Open Educational Resources (OER) and CALM programs on campus in order to accomplish cost savings for students.

California Assembly Bill No. 798: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB798