

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

**SS-S23-2, Sense of the Senate Resolution, In Opposition to
Florida House Bill 999 and in Solidarity with Public University
Faculty in the State of Florida**

Legislative History:

On April 17, 2023, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator French for the Professional Standards Committee.

Whereas: HB 999 would put control of curriculum and institutional mission statements entirely in the hands of political appointees, substituting the ideological beliefs of those in power for the freedom necessary for institutions of higher education to serve the common good, and

Whereas HB 999 would effectively silence faculty and students across the ideological spectrum, limit or ban students' ability to pursue certain areas of study, and purge whole fields of study from public universities, and

Whereas: HB 999 would destroy academic freedom, tenure, and shared governance in Florida's public colleges and universities, and

Whereas: Historically, autocratic regimes have set their sights on cultural centers, the arts, and colleges and universities, because they see these places as threats to their power and control, and

Whereas: HB 999 is clearly an attempt to stifle ideas, silence debate, and make Florida's institutions of higher education into an arm of Governor DeSantis' political operation; therefore be it

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of San José State University (SJSU) must, in the strongest possible terms, denounce these authoritarian measures and express our solidarity with the faculty, students, and staff of Florida's public colleges and universities; be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of San José State University (SJSU) calls on the faculty and administration of SJSU to speak out in opposition to HB 999 and in support of academic freedom everywhere; be it further

Resolved: That copies of this resolution be distributed widely to students, faculty, and staff members of the SJSU community, to the Academic Senate of the CSU, to the CSU Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, President of CFA, Faculty Trustee of the Board of Trustees, and the President of the United Faculty of Florida (UFF), the Academic Senates of Florida's public universities, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Chronicle of Higher Education,

California Assembly and Senates, Chair of Higher Education Committees, and other public venues.

Approved: 3/6/23

Vote: 9-0-0

Present: Barrera, French, Gómez, Kazemifar, Monday, Pruthi, Riley, Smith, Wang

Absent: Maldonado

Financial Impact: None anticipated

Workload Impact: None anticipated