RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate is in support of increasing access to high-quality open educational resources to reduce textbook costs and supplies for students and encourages CSUB faculty to consider, wherever possible, using high quality, low cost or no cost, accessible textbook alternatives.

RATIONALE: An increasing number of quality, peer-reviewed materials are available for faculty to adopt as Affordable Learning Solutions* (ALS), a subset of which are available as Open Educational Resources* (OER), for use at zero to low cost. Training and support for various affordable learning solutions is available through the CSUB Affordable Learning Solutions team, led by the Walter Stiern Library in collaboration with the Faculty Teaching and Learning Center.

AB 798, the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015, aims to “reduce costs for college students by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of lower cost, high-quality OER, as defined”. The bill creates an incentive program up to an amount of $50,000 per campus to reward CSU campuses, faculty and staff for accelerated adoption of OER.

To be eligible for the grant funds, AB 798 requires the local academic senate to adopt a resolution in support of increasing access to high-quality open educational resources to reduce textbook costs and supplies for students.

Distribution List:
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dean, Walter Stiern Library
CSUB Affordable Learning Solutions Team

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