

Elimination of CSU Service Areas

R. Chris Wells, El Camino College Academic Senate, VP for Legislative Action

Whereas: SB 1440 and the recommendations from the Legislative Analyst's Office in their report – Guaranteed Regional Access Needed for State Universities both have the impact of strengthening Local Area Access priority to CSUs and therefore exacerbate a discriminatory practice.

Whereas: The LAO report acknowledges that “granting preference to local students over out-of-area students could be perceived as inequitable—particularly when the out-of-area student is better qualified. Moreover, given that CSU campuses differ in terms of size, campus amenities, program offerings, student bodies, and other characteristics, there could be situations when a student's local campus is not the best suited to that students' needs.” And they still “believe that ensuring local access to all eligible students is more important than maintaining equal admissions criteria for all applicants to a given campus.”

Whereas: The basis of the policy of "free flow", adopted by the Legislature in 1987, that permits students to enroll in any community college in the state, regardless of the district in which they happen to reside should also be the basis for the elimination of Local Admissions Areas for the CSU system.

Whereas: El Camino College and ECC – Compton are in a position to make a strong argument that the current policy not only hurts their students it also hurts the college's ability to attract students and gives priority to students of non-protected classes over students of protected classes

Whereas: The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges had a Resolution 15.02 Fall 2009 RE-EVALUATE CSU SERVICE AREAS (Presenter: Kenneth Matsuura, Transfer and Articulation Committee) that described discriminatory practices of the CSU System and a previous resolution 15.03 Spring 2004 on the same issue that has not resulted in the desired remedy.

Resolved: That the El Camino College Academic Senate challenge this policy in the most aggressive way possible by filing a Complaint to the Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.

Resolved: That the El Camino College Academic Senate request that The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges join El Camino College by supporting this resolution and joining in this complaint.