

75th Senate

Winter Session



S.R. 9-901A

Directional

A Resolution to Propose an Increase to the Lock-in Fee for KCSB-FM 91.9

A resolution, motioned onto the 75th Senate floor by **Senator Lankarani**, seconded by **Senator Kadah**, that will add to the Spring General Elections Ballot a lock-in fee increase for KCSB-FM that supports student-led broadcast operations, and the preservation of the Storke Communications Building, a student-owned space.

Bill Type:

Directional

Voting Threshold:

50%+1

Fiscal Impact:

0

Whereas, KCSB-FM was founded in 1961-62 by student Bill Harrison and friends to provide a creative media space for students to learn radio broadcasting, and continues today as a college and community radio station serving a broadcast area spanning the Tri-Counties via FM radio, and the world via web stream; was the first UC radio station in the University of California system and is a keystone member of the UC Radio Network of college stations; and serves as a broadcast partner during local emergencies (fire, flood, etc.); and,

Whereas, KCSB-FM is housed in an Associated Students owned and operated building that is an “orphan” building, the upkeep and maintenance of which is the sole responsibility of KCSB and the Associated Students; and,

Whereas, the exposure of this concrete building to the elements (ocean air, sun, rain) over 56 years has resulted in rain leaks and other erosion that now impacts the studio

spaces where electrified equipment operates, and where outdated technology that was left in situ is exposed, requiring urgent remediation and outlay of KCSB's rainy day/cell site funds; and,

Whereas, the hourly minimum wage has increased 38% since 2017 (from \$12/hr to \$16.50/hr), and KCSB's payroll costs are now two-thirds of our operating budget, while other programming costs associated with these student staff positions have also increased (e.g. the cost of equipment, Performance Royalties, printing, etc.) and KCSB-FM has not had a fee increase since the Student Initiative of 2006; and,

Whereas, KCSB takes money from the rainy day/cell site funds to balance the Operating deficit at the end of the fiscal year; and,

Whereas, KCSB's annual on-air Fund Drive averages \$25K in fundraising dollars which essentially sustains its own operation and the accompanying community outreach piece of our KCSB Mission Statement; and,

Whereas, KCSB maintains a unique Music Library in our facility which has been hand curated by students over the last 60+ years, and has an extensive collection of physical media (Vinyl, CD, Cassette, etc) not available on streaming, including many bands and artists from the 805 community, with handwritten notes, recommendations, and anecdotes from students; and,

Whereas, KCSB provides a robust non-commercial, independent radio broadcast service that is 24/7 and 365-days per year and has been recognized by local government as an essential service to our Santa Barbara County community; maintains an active KCSB Newsroom that trains new reporters every quarter and provides college credit for reporters during the Winter Quarter through Sociology 91; provides quarterly radio broadcast (and other multimedia) training in a peer-to-peer format with the guidance of professional radio advisors; and generally serves as a beacon of Free Press and free-form expression of the student experience.

Therefore, let it be resolved by the Associated Students in the 75th Senate assembled, the following text will be appended to the Spring 2025 General Elections Ballot for review and election by the UCSB campus body:

“Do you support an increase in KCSB's lock-in fee of \$2.03 (fall, winter, spring) and \$1.99 (summer) to fulfill the current level of broadcast service, student engagement through music events and content creation, and student employment and leadership development; and also expand these services for future UCSB students and Santa Barbara County community members? A ‘YES’ vote will secure the funding for KCSB-FM Operations into the future, and prevent the diversion of funds from the rainy day fund/cell site monies used to maintain the student-owned Storke Communications

Building that houses KCSB-FM and The Daily Nexus. A ‘NO’ vote will maintain the status quo.”

☐ Yes

☐ No

Therefore, be it resolved by the Associated Students in the 75th Senate assembled, the following pro statement will be appended to the ballot text for the Spring 2025 General Election.

Voting “YES” means we can maintain the appropriate staffing and expand our media services to more students. This means more students can be trained in radio production, attend Music Review Committee/Music Dept interns, learn Sportscasting, be on-air news reporters, and be Publicity and Publications Ambassadors. The fee will go from \$2.85 to \$4.88 (FWS); and from \$2.45 to \$4.45 for summer. VOTE “YES.”

A “NO” vote will force us to spend down the rainy day fund/cell-site monies that are only replenished at \$70K per year, ultimately requiring a reduction in student staff and media services and engagement for students.