

SENATE RESOLUTION
[NUMBER - *SR-W21-006*]

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TITLE	Resolution Regarding Non-Traditional Student Housing Needs

WHEREAS, the economic and physical impact of the [Covid-19 pandemic](#) has had an especially [harsh impact](#) on student-parents & non-traditional students;

WHEREAS, a [study](#) conducted by the University of California Riverside School of Public Policy and the Inland Center for Sustainable Development has found that “housing insecurity has been greatly intensified by the pandemic;”

WHEREAS, the [aforementioned July study](#) has concluded that an overwhelming 12% of mortgage holders and an even more stark 18% of renters have missed their respective payments in the month of July 2020. This “stand[ing] in stark contrast with the 4% & 7% respective missed or late payment rates ... of 2017;”

WHEREAS, according to an [LA Times article](#) published Jan. 2021, “Eviction Cases in California [are] Projected to Double.” This statewide crisis of mass eviction court cases are estimated to be at least 240,000. Clearly, this verging homelessness crisis has not subsided in the months between July and January;

WHEREAS, a [pre-pandemic study](#) conducted by Temple University (Pennsylvania) has found that a whopping 68% of student-parents are housing-insecure. This same study also concluded that over 17% of said individuals experienced homelessness the previous year. And over 53% of the same group were found to be food insecure. The study in question surveyed over 23,000 student-parents at 56 four-year institutions and 171 two-year colleges;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Temple University study demonstrates the sheer economic instability far too many student-parents face during their time at a higher education institution. In fact this [same study](#) found that parents are 10 times less likely to complete a bachelor degree within 5 years, than non student-parents;

WHEREAS, ultimately this horrible situation many student-parents are subjected to is both socially and economically damaging to all higher education institutions, including the University of California Riverside;

WHEREAS, the economic insecurity of many student-parents is socially damaging to the University of California Riverside, because as an institution that prides itself on [social mobility](#), it must similarly accept the inherent fact that a larger number of students come from lower & middle income backgrounds. It is then logically economical for the University of California Riverside to focus more heavily on supporting lower income students, to maintain its status as an institution that supports social class mobility;

WHEREAS, [Falkirk student-housing](#) at the University of California Riverside is on average less expensive than their [privately owned counterparts](#) in the county;

WHEREAS, with the addition of [newly constructed student housing](#) at the University of California Riverside, there is more room to allocate housing to non-traditional & parenting students. These being individuals who on average have higher [economic insecurity](#):

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That The Associated Students of UC Riverside - Call upon UC Riverside to support non-traditional & parenting students with housing assistance.

- (1) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that the Associated Students of UC Riverside shall work with the University of California Riverside, in order to secure Falkirk Apartments for non-traditional student communities, including student-parents.
- (2) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that room & board for Falkirk Apartments should prioritize student-parents who have experienced/are at risk for homelessness, student-veterans, and the formerly incarcerated community.
- (3) *Let It Be Further Resolved* student-parents request for an extended move-in period for families and for volunteer organizations for help moving during the COVID-19 pandemic and academic school year.
- (4) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that student-parents should be allowed to stay in family housing for up to six months past graduation to allow for a post-graduate transition.
- (5) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that the University will establish/maintain relationships with off campus housing groups to assist students in finding more permanent rental housing rather than temporary hotel stays.
- (6) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that institutions within the University of California Riverside, which work to address basic needs, establish relationships with community groups to address additional basic needs such as furniture and clothing.
 - (a) Community Groups should include but are not limited to the "[Habitat for Humanity ReStore](#)" and Ashley HomeStore's "[A Hope to Dream](#)" Bed program for youth.
- (7) *Let It Be Further Resolved* That local governments, including the University of California Riverside, provide regular monetary grants for student-parents in order to meet their housing needs. These needs include housing assistance and moving needs.
 - (a) This grant should prioritize financially insecure, homeless student communities, and housing insecure individuals waiting for UC family housing.

- (8) *Let It Be Further Resolved* that the University of California Riverside should provide a “Buyout Grant” which would allow for student-parents to move into on-campus housing.
- (9) *Let It Be Finally Resolved* that the Associated Students of UC Riverside shall work with interested community groups, institutions, and the University of California Riverside in order to advocate for the fruition of the aforementioned requests to assist student-parents.

CC:

- 1. CA Assemblymember Jose Medina
- 2. [Riverside Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson](#)
- 3. [Riverside Councilwoman Erin Edwards](#)
- 4. [UC Riverside Chancellor](#)
- 5. Vice Chancellor of Planning, Budget, & Administration
- 6. [Dean of Students](#)
- 7. [Graduate Students Association](#)
- 8. [The Highlander Newspaper](#)
- 9. [UCR Campus Apartments](#)

SUBMITTED ON - *January 22nd, 2021*

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - *January 25th, 2021*

VOTE COUNT - *7-0-0*

SENATE APPROVED ON - *01/27/2021*

VOTE COUNT - *18-0-0*