MEMORIAL TO THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS the series of budget cuts that began at the onset of the Great Recession has reduced total state funding to the University of California by 25% since 2008-09, continuing the two decade long trend of defunding higher education by the State;

WHEREAS diminishing support for the University is directly related to falling State revenues and the decreasing fraction of the State’s budget allocated to higher education;

WHEREAS during this period California undergraduate resident students have suffered an 80% increase in tuition and are for the first time paying a higher proportion of the cost of their education than that supported by the State;

WHEREAS the university system provides intrinsic critical public benefit to all Californians by offering education to all qualified California residents;

WHEREAS increasingly damaging budgets have produced a downward spiral that threatens the survival of the University as the leading public university in the world as it experiences higher student-faculty ratios, larger class sizes, reduced depth and breadth in course offerings, staff layoffs, and lack of investment in infrastructure;

WHEREAS the faculty are prepared to advocate publicly, consistently, and forcefully for the future of the University,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Assembly of the Academic Senate calls on The Regents of the University to support specific measures that will increase state revenues and specific measures that will prioritize funding for public higher education.

CHANGES FROM ORIGINAL:

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WHEREAS the faculty are prepared to advocate publicly, consistently, and forcefully for the future of the University; and

WHEREAS section 41.10 of the University’s Policy on Use of University Properties prohibits the University from sponsoring political activities unless “authorized for University purposes by The Regents or the President or their designees.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Assembly of the Academic Senate calls on The Regents of the University to exercise their power to authorize the faculty and all members of the University to advocate publicly on behalf of the University in support of specific measures that will increase state revenues and specific measures that will prioritize funding for public higher education.

JUSTIFICATION: The substitute text more accurately reflects what the law allows Regents to do and more precisely states what the Memorial requests that they do.