

Associated Students, Inc.  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo

Resolution #20-08

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT TENANTS AND LANDLORDS DURING THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- WHEREAS: The ASI Board of Directors serves as the official voice of students at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo; and
- WHEREAS: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, “for the preservation of public health and safety throughout the entire State of California,” Governor Newsom has ordered the state of California to ‘Stay at Home’ until further notice<sup>1,2</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: Communications from Cal Poly have advised and requested that students remain at their permanent addresses for the entirety of spring quarter<sup>3</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: As of Thursday, April 30, 2020; 30 million U.S. citizens, including some Cal Poly students, have filed for unemployment<sup>4</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: According to anecdotal information from constituents, it is clear that many non-essential student workers both on-campus and off-campus have been either furloughed, terminated from their positions, or have experienced a decrease in shift hours due to the shift to virtual working environments; and
- WHEREAS: Nearly a third (31%) of Americans were unable to pay their April Rent<sup>5</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 68% of Cal Poly students, or about 14,832 students, live off-campus<sup>6</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 65% of San Luis Obispo residents, including Cal Poly students, live in rental properties<sup>7,8</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019 Cal Poly Experience (CPX) campus climate survey reported that, “43% of the student population at Cal Poly is financially challenged”<sup>9</sup>; and
- WHEREAS: The Statewide Moratorium on Evictions does not protect students from being unable to pay rent as it requires them to pay the unpaid rent in full once the Moratorium ends; and

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1 Executive Department State of CA-Executive Order N-33-20 - <https://covid19.ca.gov/img/Executive-Order-N-33-20.pdf>

2 COVID19.CA.GOV - <https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/%23top>

3 Cal Poly Campus Updates - Coronavirus - <https://coronavirus.calpoly.edu/campus-updates>

4 NPR Coronavirus Updates-Unemployment - <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/30/848021681/a-staggering-toll-30-million-have-filed-for-unemployment>

5 CNN News - Trouble Paying Rent - <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/09/business/americans-rent-payment-trnd/index.html%20>

6 USNews-2020 Enrollment Stats - <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/california-polytechnic-state-university-san-luis-obispo-1143/student-life>

7 KSBYNews-New Renters Ordinance - <https://www.ksby.com/news/local-news/new-ordinance-will-protect-san-luis-obispo-renters>

8 SLOCity-Community Profile-Appendix A - <http://www.slocity.org/home/showdocument?id=6641%20>

9 CP-CPX Research Study - [https://diversity.calpoly.edu/wp-content/uploads/CAL-POLY-STUDENT-TECHNICAL-REPORT\\_Final-2.1-compressed.pdf%20](https://diversity.calpoly.edu/wp-content/uploads/CAL-POLY-STUDENT-TECHNICAL-REPORT_Final-2.1-compressed.pdf%20)

WHEREAS: Renters are struggling to make their rent payments, and as such landlords are also struggling to make their mortgage payments<sup>10</sup>; and

WHEREAS: It would be unfair to require landlords to bear the full financial burden of the Covid-19 Pandemic in the rental housing market<sup>11</sup>; and WHEREAS: California Governor Gavin Newsom stated in a press conference a 4-phase plan on “Reopening California”<sup>12</sup>; and

WHEREAS: Phase 2 begins Friday, May 8, 2020, while Phases 3 and 4 are months away<sup>11, 13</sup>; and

WHEREAS: The easing of stay-at-home orders is contingent on being able to quickly put them back in place and SLO County has its own 3 phase plan to easing restrictions<sup>11, 14</sup>; and

WHEREAS: It is projected that lockdown and physical distancing measures may continue until 2022, as the risk of successive waves of infection may persist until a vaccine can be developed and mass distributed<sup>15, 16, 17, 18</sup>

THEREFORE  
BE IT

RESOLVED: The ASI Board of Directors encourages local governments in the County of San Luis Obispo to push for the suspension of rent and mortgage payments for as long as the uncertainty and negative economic effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic persists; and

FURTHERMORE  
BE IT

RESOLVED: The ASI Board of Directors encourages the County of San Luis Obispo to apply for Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) and other Emergency Service Grants to create direct assistance programs for those struggling to pay rent or mortgage payments; and

FURTHERMORE  
BE IT

RESOLVED: That this Resolution be sent to California Governor Gavin Newsom; California State Assembly Member Jordan Cunningham; California State Senator Bill Monning; all members of the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors; all members of the San Luis Obispo City Council; University President Jeffrey D. Armstrong; and Vice President for Student Affairs Keith Humphrey.

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10 Governor Newsome - Evictions - <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/03/27/governor-newsom-takes-executive-action-to-establish-a-statewide-moratorium-on-evictions/>

11 NPR-What if No One Pays Rent? - <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/830237502>

12 CNN News - Governor Newsome Phased Reopening Plan - <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/28/politics/california-phased-reopening-plan/index.html%20>

13 NPR - Governor Newsome Announcement - <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/05/04/850241273/gov-newsom-announces-california-will-begin-easing-coronavirus-closures-this-week>

14 ReadySLO.org - <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/start.aspx#Phase-One>

15 New York Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/18/health/coronavirus-america-future.html>

16 American Association for the Advancement of Science - <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2020/04/24/science.abb5793>

17 The Hill.com - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/493695-who-chief-worst-of-coronavirus-pandemic-still-ahead>

18 CNN News The Hill.com - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/493695-who-chief-worst-of-coronavirus-pandemic-still-ahead>

Certified as the true and correct copy,  
in witness thereof, I have set my hand  
and Seal of the San Luis Obispo Cal  
Poly Associated Students, Inc. this  
28th day of May 2020.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of  
the Board of Directors at San Luis  
Obispo Cal Poly Associated Students,  
Inc. this 27th day of May 2020.

Attest:

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ASI Secretary

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Signed:

ASI Chair of the Board

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Signed:

ASI President

Authored By:

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Mark Borges, ASI President