Resolution expressing deep concern over the proposed budget cuts to the CSU and CCC systems and urging our Governor and Legislature to restore and reinvigorate funding for public higher education in California.

WHEREAS, the California State University system (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC) play an important role as engines of workforce preparation and economic growth in California; and,

WHEREAS, the CSU and the CCC systems award degrees to graduate over 164,000 students statewide, and over 8,500 students in San Francisco, into the workforce each year and provide the majority of the state’s teachers, social workers, health care providers, business professionals, and engineers; and,

WHEREAS, the state budget proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger in January 2008, would reduce funding to the CSU and CCC systems by over $800 million; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed budget will produce a variety of impacts that could hurt access, affordability, and quality of education through larger class sizes, reductions in campus services, reductions in instructional support and research programs, and student fee increases unaffordable to some; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed reductions to CSU and CCC budgets could eliminate many well-paid jobs and depress wages for essential employees, creating a harmful economic impact on San Francisco and generating less personal income tax revenue for the state’s general fund; and,

SUPERVISOR AMMIANO, ELSBERND, DUFTY, CHU.
WHEREAS, the state of California estimates the number of skilled, college-educated workers needed to maintain California’s economic growth over the next decade will increase at a rate greater than the current amount of students than California currently prepares through its higher education system; and,

WHEREAS, City College and San Francisco State are particularly well-poised to educate and train the workforce for San Francisco’s growth industries, such as health care services and biotechnology and green technology research and development, thereby having a positive impact on the health and well-being of our city and state; and,

WHEREAS, the Justice Policy Institute has found that states that made larger investments in higher education experienced better public safety outcomes such as declines in violent crime rates; and,

WHEREAS, in an unprecedented manner, the California Community Colleges and the California State University system have joined together to advocate for higher education funding that respects the needs of California’s students, families, workers, and employers, as well as the economic welfare of our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges our state’s leaders to recognize public higher education’s critical role in our state’s economic future as they make budget decisions this year and to restore the $800 million to the public higher education budget; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins with students, parents, alumni, staff, faculty, labor organizations, and administrators to express deep concern over the threat of the governor’s January state budget proposal to accessibility and affordability of public higher education; and be it

SUPERVISOR AMMIANO, ELSBERND, DUFTY
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins with students, parents, alumni, staff, faculty, labor organizations, and administrators to urge California's Governor and Legislature support increased investment in public higher education using revenue enhancements rather than decreasing affordability and accessibility.

SUPERVISOR AMMIANO, ELSBERND, DUFTY
Resolution expressing deep concern over the proposed budget cuts to the CSU and CCC systems and urging our Governor and Legislature to restore and reinvigorate funding for public higher education in California.

May 20, 2008 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Chu, Daly, Duffy, Elsbernd, Maxwell, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval
Absent: 1 - McGoldrick

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on May 20, 2008 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom

City Hall
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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689