

STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

TITLE: Resolution in Support of the Water Watch Campaign of the California Student Public Interest Research.

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WHEREAS, water is essential to almost every aspect of the lives of students and the greater public, as well as one of California's most precious resources; and

WHEREAS, the water supply in California is severely strained - this year California faces the worst drought in California history, the Governor is calling it a Mega Drought and for the first time, scientists declared that 100 percent of the state faces drought conditions.

WHEREAS, if this drought continues, Californians could face mandatory water restrictions at home; crop shortages and increased food prices; and a heightened risk of wildfires - furthermore, our growing population, global warming-induced shrinking Sierra snowpack, and cyclical rain shortages will mean even more shortages in the future; and

WHEREAS, the best way to tackle our water shortage is to use less of it; and

WHEREAS Governor Jerry Brown has called on all Californians to do their part and reduce water consumption by 20 percent; and

WHEREAS the President of the University of California, Janet Napolitano echoed this call and directed all University of California campuses to reduce their water usage by 20 percent by 2020; and

WHEREAS every University of California campus has developed or is in the process of developing a Water Action Plan to cut water use on campus; and

WHEREAS students are essential to making sure these plans are strong, succeed and allow the UC to help lead a statewide shift toward smarter water use; then

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Union Assembly of University of California Santa Cruz support the California Student Public Interest Research Group and its Water Watch Campaign to reduce water usage through education and a water reduction competition between the colleges; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Union Assembly of the University of California Santa Cruz encourage the UCSC administration to work with student leaders on campus to enact policies to reduce water usage, promote water conservation through education and encourage the student body to take the pledge to reduce their own personal water usage.