RESOLUTION
The Phasing Out of Single-Use Plastic Water Bottles

Whereas The Associated Students of Sonoma State University is the official voice of over 9,000 students; and

Whereas It is the mission of the Associated Students to enrich the lives of our students through advocacy and representation; and

Whereas Sustainability is a core value of Sonoma State University as listed in the 2008-09/2012-13 Strategic Plan; and

Whereas The Associated Students resolved to “commit to action that will both reduce the environmental impact of the organization and spread environmental awareness to the campus community.”¹; and

Whereas The Associated Students made sustainability one of its goals in its 2013-2018 strategic plan, specifically stating: “The AS will aim to work toward an organization that recognizes environmental impact and the need for longevity”²; and

Whereas Sustainability is the practice of conserving natural resources so that they will be available for future generations; and

Whereas The U.S. alone accounts for 5.35 billion pounds of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic a year³; and

Whereas Producing plastic bottles consumes the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil a year in the U.S. alone⁴; and

¹ AS Commitment to Environmental Sustainability (AS-R 006.11.12)
² AS Strategic Plan 2013-2018
³ http://www.bloomberg.com/slideshow/2012-10-02/the-life-of-a-plastic-water-bottle.html#slide1
⁴
Whereas Americans purchase approximately 29 billion water bottles every year\(^5\); and

Whereas A recent study\(^6\) concluded roughly 22 percent of the bottled water tested contained contaminant levels that exceeded strict state health limits; and

Whereas The Sonoma County Water Agency consistently meets state and national standards for drinking water quality; and

Whereas "Sonoma State University routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State regulations."\(^7\); and

Whereas During Tapapoluzza, through the Food & Water Watch, in Spring 2013 480\(^8\) Sonoma State students took a pledge saying that they were not going to use a single-use water bottles any more; and

Whereas Bottled water costs 1,000 times more than tap water\(^9\); and

Whereas Banning the sale of single-use plastic water bottles would reduce our campus' impact on the local environment by reducing our carbon emissions and reducing the amount of barrels of oil used to produce plastic water bottles.

Therefore let it hereby be further resolved the Associated Students beseeches the University to install two hydration stations a semester, starting in the 2014/15 fiscal year, until one hydration station is on every floor of every building excluding housing, starting with the main floor of every building.

Therefore let it hereby be further resolved that Associated Students participate in educating the students of Sonoma State University about the importance of water conservation and waste management.

\(^4\) http://www.bloomberg.com/slideshow/2012-10-02/the-life-of-a-plastic-water-bottle.html#slide3
\(^5\) National Geographic
\(^6\) Conducted by the National Resources Defense Council
\(^7\) http://www.sonoma.edu/ehs/water/ccr2012.pdf
\(^8\) Katy Kiefer (personal communication, November 25, 2013)
\(^9\) MSLK’s Watershed installation
Therefore let it hereby be further resolved Associated Students will stop purchasing single-use plastic water bottles, with the exception of performer contracts, remote locations, or emergency cases\textsuperscript{10}.

Therefore let it hereby be further resolved Associated Students revisit the banning of single-use plastic water bottles based on the effectiveness of the education efforts and the convenience of water bottle filling stations, by the 2019-20 senate.

\begin{quote}
**ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the AS Senate by a unanimous vote on February 28, 2014.
\end{quote}

\begin{quote}
**CERTIFIED** as the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my signature as Chair of the Senate of the Associated Students of Sonoma State University, this the \underline{10} day of, \underline{March} 2014.

[Signature]

Iman Rashid, Chair of the Senate
\end{quote}

\begin{quote}
**CERTIFIED** as included in the official record of the Associated Students of Sonoma State University, in witness thereof, I have set my signature as Corporate Secretary, this the \underline{10}st day of, \underline{March} 2014.

[Signature]

Anthony Gallino, Executive Vice President
\end{quote}

\textsuperscript{10} "Emergency cases" are to be defined at the Executive Director's discretion.