



Associated Students of Sonoma State University

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>

- Whereas Americans purchase approximately 29 billion water bottles every year⁵; and
- Whereas A recent study⁶ 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 Tapapoluza, through the Food & Water Watch, in Spring 2013 480⁸ 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 water⁹; 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)

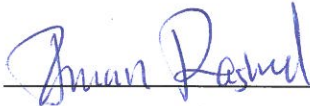
⁹ MSLK's Watershed installation

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 cases¹⁰.

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.

ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE AS SENATE BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE ON FEBRUARY 28, 2014.

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 10 DAY OF, March 2014.



IMAN RASHED, CHAIR OF THE SENATE

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 10th DAY OF, March 2014.



ANTHONY GALLINO, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

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