Title: Matador Food Bank

1. WHEREAS: The Associated Students, Inc. (A.S.) is the official voice of over 40,000 students at California State University Northridge; and

2. WHEREAS: A.S. is the primary advocate for students at CSUN and provides excellent, meaningful programs and services designed to create and enhance a spirited, learning-focused campus environment; and

3. WHEREAS: In accomplishing its mission, A.S. has the responsibility to inform students about key issues that affect our diverse communities; and

4. WHEREAS: Food insecurity, among college students, has been a prevalent issue for many years and is worsening as the years go by with the rising cost of living and college; and

5. WHEREAS: According to Feeding America, a nonprofit nationwide network of food banks that feeds more than 46 million people through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, etc., found in a 2014 report that one in ten hungry adults seeking emergency food assistance is a student - two million of whom are studying full-time at a university. Nearly one third (30.5%) of those surveyed reported that they have had to choose between paying for food
and covering educational expenses at some point in the year prior to the survey; and

6. WHEREAS: Statewide, the 2014 survey of undergraduates at the University of California reported that 26% of respondents skipped meals “somewhat often” or “very often” to save money; and

7. WHEREAS: Eight CSU schools and nine UC campuses currently operate food pantries. Also, at least two-dozen community colleges in the state have pantries; and

8. WHEREAS: The CSSA policy agenda states the importance of research, as well as the importance of establishing the best practices for food pantry creation and sustainability on each campus; and

9. WHEREAS: Acknowledging the fact that CSUN is the largest CSU in terms of number of student enrollment; in which a substantial percentage is suffering from hunger issues as indicated by the April 2015 A.S. Election Survey results which showed 61% of the sample of 4,000 students were struggling to have enough food every day; and

10. WHEREAS: The 2015 – 2016 A.S. Strategic Plan of President Jorge Reyes and Vice President Sevag Alexanian emphasizes the importance of a food pantry on campus to tend to the hunger issue of CSUN students; and

11. WHEREAS: The A.S. acknowledges and thanks the Matador Food Bank organization for taking the initiative and dedicating hard work on the creation of a food pantry on campus; and therefore let it be

1. RESOLVED: That A.S. proposes the creation of a food pantry on campus and will continue its advocacy efforts with administration every academic year until the creation of a food pantry occurs; and let it be further

2. RESOLVED: That A.S. will fully support the campus in their search for a permanent location for the food pantry; and let it be further
3. RESOLVED: That A.S. will submit a Campus Quality Fee application to request funds for the staffing of a food pantry on campus; and let it be further

4. RESOLVED: That once a food pantry is established on campus A.S. will be responsible for the marketing of the food pantry; and let it be finally

5. RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be distributed widely, including but not limited to the following:

- Dianne Harrison, CSUN President
- William Watkins, Vice President of Student Affairs
- Francesca Vega, Director of Government and Community Relations
- Timothy P. White, Chancellor’s Office
- Yi Li, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- The University Corporation
- Shelley Ruelas- Bischoff, Associate Vice President of Student Life
- Matador Food Bank
- CSUN today
- USU Board of Directors
- California State Student Association

Jorge Reyes
President, 2015-2016

Sevag Alexanian
Vice President, 2015-2016