Resolution in Opposition to Proposition 32, “Political Contributions by Payroll Deductions.”

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University Dominguez Hills strongly opposes Proposition 32 “Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction. Contributions to Candidates. Initiative Statute,” a proposed amendment to Chapter 5 of the Government Code; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University Dominguez Hills distributes this resolution to:
   • The “No on Proposition 32 campaign”,
   • the Board of Trustees,
   • the CSU Chancellor,
   • campus Presidents, Provosts, and Senate Chairs,
   • the California Faculty Association,
   • Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges,
   • Academic Senate of the University of California,
   • the Governor of the state of California, and
   • the California Legislative Leadership.

RATIONALE:

Proposition 32 “Political Contributions By Payroll Deduction Contributions to Candidates. Initiative Statute” prohibits unions, corporations, or government contractors from using payroll-deducted funds for political purposes. It also prohibits unions and corporations from contributing directly or indirectly to candidates and candidate controlled committees. Proposition 32 permits other political expenditures to continue unrestricted, including corporate expenditures and special interests (e.g. super PACs) from available resources not limited by the payroll deduction prohibition. Finally, the California Legislative Analyst estimates that the approval of Proposition 32 “Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction Contributions to Candidates. Initiative Statute” will require implementation costs to state and local governments potentially exceeding $1 million annually.

Proposition 32 unfairly singles out teachers, nurses, and firefighters and limits their voices in their areas of expertise and issues that matter to the citizens of California.

Approval of Proposition 32 would deny CFA, the collective bargaining representative of CSU faculty, CSUEU, the collective bargaining representative of CSU staff, SETC, the collective bargaining representative of CSU carpenters and plumbers, as well as numerous other California labor unions in both the public and private sector the ability to collect money from members through voluntary payroll deductions. As payroll deductions are the primary way unions raise revenue, it is clear that Proposition 32 was designed to erode the ability of unions to advocate on behalf of their members, while leaving intact the ability of corporations to use the vast resources at their disposal to influence the making of public policy.