Resolution FA23.01 : In Support of the LGBTQIA+ Community Rights and Need for Safe Spaces

Whereas, San Bernardin Community College District (SBCCD) seeks to positively impact the lives and careers of our students, the well-being of their families, and the prosperity of our community through excellence in educational and training opportunities as supported by Goal 1: Eliminate barriers to student access and success, Goal 2: Be a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist institution, and Goal 3: Be a leader in addressing regional issues;

Whereas, San Bernardino Valley College’s (SBVC) mission is to “…foster an environment of meaningful learning and belonging for our students, employees, and the community”, and values “ ..a campus-wide climate that is student-focused“, “ …multiple perspectives”, and “…appreciates diverse cultures and human experiences”;

Whereas, legislation specifically targeting the LGBTQ+ population has increased with more than 520 Anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced to state legislators, over 220 bills specifically targeting transgendered and non-binary people;

Whereas, the local LGBTQ+ community within the San Bernardino Community College District and San Bernardino Valley College service area are experiencing Anti-LGBTQ+ actions in the form of library collections, textbook selections, reporting of chosen names and non-traditional gender-identities, and Anti-LGBTQ+ crimes as evidenced by the recent murder of Laura Carelton, a heterosexual shop owner and ally in Lake Arrowhead allegedly murdered for flying a Pride flag at her place of business;

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate and faculty members acknowledge the current realities of the LGBTQ+ community who are experiencing the loss of rights, increased Anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, and hate crimes, and reaffirm their commitment to ensuring our campus establishes a Safe Space for the LGBTQ+ community that is welcoming, inclusive and allows for the development of community connections;

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate and faculty members encourage advocacy through collaborative efforts with the District to protect and support members of the LGBTQ+ community on our campus;

Resolved, professional development opportunities promoting understanding of the lived experiences of the LGBTQ+ community and addressing ways to address the unique and basic educational needs of the LGBTQ+ community in order to create more inclusive and safe educational environments will continue to be offered to faculty, staff, and the campus community; and

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate will work with the SBVC Office of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, and the District to prioritize obtaining and integrating data gathered by CCC Apply into campus and district dashboards to be used to effectively address the unique and basic educational needs of the LGBTQ+ community.