

Associated Students of Cerritos College

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

04/09/2025

Senator Andres Valdez introduced the following Bill

Senator Caleb Om seconded the following Bill

A BILL

Justice Scholars Program Repurpose of Funds

SB-2425-13

- Whereas:** The Justice Scholars Program (account 600-02-137) was approved for \$3,500.00 for the 2024-2025 school year for expenses to include welcome packets & snacks and food to celebrate the end of semester/s for Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall students.
- Whereas:** The Justice Scholars Program has been successfully implemented at Los Padrinos, contributing to the educational advancement and rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals. In the course of its work, a need to support adult formerly incarcerated students on-campus has been identified. This support is crucial to their academic success, personal growth, and reintegration into society.
- Whereas:** Adult formerly incarcerated individuals often face unique challenges in their pursuit of higher education, including but not limited to stigma, gaps in educational background, and difficulties in adjusting to campus life after years of incarceration.
- Whereas:** The transition from incarceration to college can be a difficult and isolating experience, and without targeted support systems, these students may struggle to navigate the academic environment, maintain stability, and achieve long-term success.
- Whereas:** The Justice Scholars Program is supporting on-campus adult formerly incarcerated students to charter a student club by the name of Justice Scholars Club (JSC) to foster a college-going-culture. The club has identified its prospective President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and ICC Representative. A constitution has been drafted and approved by the prospective club membership and will look to charter the club starting Fall 2025 as the deadline to charter passed.
- Whereas:** The Justice Scholars Program would like to utilize some of their ASCC-allocated funds to help sponsor an event to invite other system-impacted students that are attending Cerritos College during Fall 2025 and open a safe space to network, support, and collaborate to foster a college-going-culture.
- Resolved:** For the Senate to approve the Justice Scholars Program to utilize a portion of their existing ASCC funds to include the purchase of JSP t-shirts, in addition to the other items that were previously approved prior, such as snacks and food to celebrate the end of semester, for on-campus adult system-impacted students. Providing an opportunity to maintain operational effectiveness and uphold the standards expected of incoming JSC team.
- Resolved:** There is no fiscal impact to ASCC, as the funds being reallocated are already designated for the Justice Scholars Program use, ensuring that all financial management remains within the approved budget guidelines for the remaining of the fiscal year 2024-2025.

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Amendment History

None.

Final Senate Action

Date of final vote: April 9, 2025

Senators Voting Aye: Rabia Ali, David Bridges, Kendra Carnes, Ritchie Chavez, Kaye De Ocampo, Elvin Garcia, Eshmom Haque, Joanna Kedir, Weston Milligan, Caleb Om, Francisco Peña, Diego Sanchez, Gustavo Sanchez, Andres Valdez, Alejandra Vega, Adia Reyes, Alexandria Rodriguez, Julio Sosa-Diaz

Senators Voting Nay: None

Senators Abstaining: None

Vote Count: 18 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain

Committee Referral

Referred to Committee? No

Presidential Action

Presidential Action (Approved or Veto): Approve

Presidential Signature:

Ashley Jim

Date: April 11, 2025