RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Whereas, Academic freedom is a fundamental characteristic of higher education, necessary to preserve an independent forum for free inquiry and expression, and essential to the mission of higher education to serve the common good;

Whereas, The Cerritos College Faculty Senate recognizes the value of diverse perspectives, the deliberation and dissemination of ideas, and the free pursuit of learning guaranteed by academic freedom;

Whereas, The principles of academic freedom protect freedom of inquiry and research, freedom of teaching and instructional methodology, and freedom of expression and publication;

Whereas, Academic freedom as a form of freedom of expression exists within the general framework of the United States Constitution, the California State Constitution, requirements of the California Education Code, and California Community College regulations;

Whereas, Cerritos College is committed to upholding and preserving principles of academic freedom as stated in Board policy 4030;

Whereas, The principles of academic freedom reflect the college's fundamental mission, which is to improve student success and provide access to innovative learning opportunities that promote the power of learning;

Whereas, A compressed article on academic freedom that fails to articulate the various aspects of academic freedom afforded to faculty will not prevent the potential for intentional or unintentional violations of academic freedom;

Therefore Be it Resolved, That the Cerritos College Faculty Senate recommends and supports CCFF's efforts to establish a comprehensive Article on Academic Freedom that protects all aspects of academic freedom and promotes a strong academic environment for all faculty.

Be it Further Resolved, That the Cerritos College Faculty Senate send a copy of this resolution to the Cerritos College Faculty Federation, the President/Superintendent of the Cerritos Community College District, and the Cerritos College Board of Trustees.