LAVC Academic Senate Motion/Resolution Form

Motion # :
(Assigned by Senate President)
Date Presented to Senate: 04.19.18

Revision of a previous motion? ☐ Yes

Initiator: Ron Mossler

Statement of Resolution:
Whereas the mission of our campus is to provide "quality of life [and to empower students] to be productive and engaged members of the global community"; and
Whereas we are tasked to "inspire, educate and enrich our diverse community"; and
Whereas a core value of LAVC is to foster "sustainability and pride in our vibrant and evolving campus"; and
Whereas it is estimated that plastic bottles take between 400 and 1,000 years to decompose; and
Whereas taxpayers are charged about 1,800 times more for bottled water than (tier 1) tap water; and
Whereas LAVC *has not had a recycling program for many years* and it is estimated that the vast majority of all water bottles in the U.S. are not recycled, and discarded water bottles are a major cause of pollution in waterways and contribute toxins to our soil and water; and
Whereas water is a scarce resource (especially in California) and it requires three times as much water to manufacture a bottle than to fill it; and
Whereas millions of barrels of oil are needed to manufacture water bottles, contributing to carbon emissions and, ultimately, climate change; and
Whereas our national leadership is taking a strong regressive position towards environmental sustainability and we therefore must locally combat these aggressions with an educated student body and community; and
Whereas public access to clean, safe tap water is not available to billions of people on the planet, the LAVC community needs to build awareness, recognize and promote the notion that potable water is a basic human right; therefore be it
Resolved that because it is inconsistent with our mission statement and our responsibility to be global citizens and promotes awareness of a basic human right, the academic senate asks that those responsible for ordering, approval, and procurement of LAVC budget items reject any and all requests to purchase disposable water bottles; and be it further
Resolved that all notices of events are to include a (flexible) statement that LAVC encourages the conservation of resources, recognizes our responsibility to provide for earth's sustainability, and that event participants should provide their own water; and when campus events do not have nearby water supplies, we encourage departments that ordinarily consider purchasing water bottles to instead purchase large thermos jugs, degradable paper cups, and reusable water bottles; and be it further
Resolved that we ask for additional filtered water bottle filling stations to be installed on campus.

Rationale for Resolution: *(Address how the motion supports the Educational Master Plan.)*

Creates positive branding and remains consistent with our campus .

☒ Goal 1: Increase student retention, persistence and success
☐ Goal 2: Increase student access
☐ Goal 3: Enhance academic programs and services to meet student needs
☒ Goal 4: Enhance institutional effectiveness

Data Considered & Source(s): *[Specify specific data considered (e.g. efficiency, success, service trends) and attach a summary report where applicable.]*
For many years, colleges and universities have been moving toward zero waste and increased sustainability options on campus. In addition, most universities have drinking fountains that include spouts to fill reusable water bottles. Recognizing the waste that is generated by single use plastic bottles, some universities ban them altogether. With few exceptions (all at taxpayer expense), LAVC has not fostered sustainability as our mission requires. Though we must make larger changes in order to foster an environmentally protective attitude among our students (as well as faculty and staff), this is one very small step.

II. Status of Recommendation:

☐ Accepted by Senate

☐ Modified by Senate

Statement of Modification:

Reason for Modification of Recommendation:

☐ Rejected by Senate

Reason for Rejection of Recommendation:

☐ Returned for Revisions

Reason for Returning Recommendation:

Date of Action: Senate President Signature:_____

III. College President's Response (if needed):

☐ Accepted as Recommended Implementation Date:

☐ Modified Recommendation Implementation Date:

Statement of Modification:

Reason for Modification of Recommendation:

☐ Denied Recommendation

Reason for Rejection of Recommendation:

Date of Action: President's Signature: _____

Resolution

Whereas the mission of our campus is to provide “quality of life [and to empower students] to be productive and engaged members of the global community”; and

Whereas we are tasked to “inspire, educate and enrich our diverse community”; and

Whereas a core value of LAVC is to foster “sustainability and pride in our vibrant and evolving campus”; and

Whereas it is estimated that plastic bottles take between 400 and 1,000 years to decompose; and

Whereas LAVC does not have a recycling program and it is estimated that the vast majority of all water bottles in the U.S. are not recycled, and discarded water bottles are a major cause of pollution in waterways and contribute toxins to our soil and water; and

Whereas water is a scarce resource (especially in California) and it requires three times as much water to manufacture a bottle than to fill it; and

Whereas millions of barrels of oil are needed to manufacture water bottles, contributing to carbon emissions and, ultimately, climate change; and

Whereas taxpayers are charged about 1,800 times more for bottled water than (tier 1) tap water; therefore be it

Resolved that because it is inconsistent with our mission statement and our responsibility to be global citizens, the academic senate asks that those responsible for approval and procurement of LAVC budget items reject any and all requests to purchase water bottles; and be it further

Resolved that all notices of events are to include a (flexible) statement that LAVC encourages the conservation of resources, earth's sustainability and that event participants should provide their own water; and when campus events do not have nearby water supplies, we encourage departments that ordinarily consider purchasing water bottles to instead purchase large thermoses.