Whereas, the role of a community college is to serve the students and the local and state wide community;

Whereas, Bakersfield and Kern County’s biggest industries are oil & natural gas and agriculture, the Student Government Association should take special interest in the status of these industries;

Whereas, according the Kern Economic Development Corporation, Kern County is the leading producer of energy in California and that oil & natural gas, on average, account for five percent of California’s GDP and approximately twenty percent of Kern County’s GDP;

Whereas, hydraulic fracturing has played a major role in the extraction of oil & gas in Kern County and according the State of California Department of Conservation, “hydraulic fracturing has been used as a production stimulation method for more than 30 years with no reported damage to the environment.”
Whereas, according to the Western States Petroleum Association “97 percent of California’s hydraulic fracturing takes place in Kern County” therefore we have seen first hand the realities and positive impacts this method have had on our community;

Whereas, if this method of extraction were to be completely prohibited, Kern County’s biggest industry would take a tremendous blow which in turn would greatly impact the well being of Kern County, California and all of its citizens;

Be it resolved by the Senate of the Student Government Association,

a) We will stand in opposition of any law that completely prohibits the use of hydraulic fracturing in the county of Kern and the state of California;

Be it further resolved by the Senate of the Student Government Association,

a) We will work with our students and our community to properly educate them on the issues at hand and how our local industries are impacting our daily lives both long term and short term.

Be it further resolved by the Senate of the Student Government Association,

a) We respectfully request that the Secretary-Historian transmit a copy of this resolution to President and all Vice Presidents of Bakersfield College, the Chancellor of the Kern Community College District and to the Board of Trustees for the Kern Community College District.