

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

98th SESSION 2022-2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

Establishing Non-Denominational Multi-Faith(s) Meditation Area(s)

In the Senate of the Student Government Association of BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

APRIL 26, 2023

Submitted by Senator Anguiano: Co-sponsored by Director Harvind Grewal, President Shehrazad Barraj & Vice President Maram Makrai to the Senate

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College insists that diversity be valued and promoted, recognizing that multiple perspectives lead to a better education and knowledge of the world, as stated in its Core Values section of the Mission, Vision & Values of Bakersfield College;

WHEREAS, listening to and witnessing different experiences helps us to understand and contextualize power and privilege related to gender, race, class, religion, disability, and sexuality in terms of access and barriers to resources and opportunities;

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College has a diverse community, and puts emphasis on values such as inclusivity, equity and accessibility and provides educational opportunities for students of all backgrounds and beliefs, as supported by the Bakersfield College Student Government Association (BCSGA) Senate Bill Resolution 15;

WHEREAS, there is a significant need for a designated indoor room for the importance of spiritual and faithful practices for student wellness, wellbeing and welfare being recognized;

WHEREAS, there is no dedicated indoor space for meditation, prayer or reflection at the campus location; this room would serve for students, faculty and staff,

And **WHEREAS**, creating a space at Bakersfield College with an accessible non-denominational multi-faith meditation area(s) will improve the campus environment for students and the campus community,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Bakersfield College Student Government Association (BCSGA), efforts shall be made to create, repurpose or build a permanent space or temporary solution, being until a permanent solution is found, at Bakersfield College (Main campus, Panorama)



with an accessible room, available during regular hours and days of the school, used to practice faith(s) and pray for students, faculty, staff and the campus-related community.

Let it further be resolved the BCSGA will keep the space for prayer and faith purposes only.