

**Mt SAC Pride:
In Support of the Campus LGBTQIA+
Students, Staff, Faculty, Administrators, and Community**

Resolution 2023-05

Whereas, the Mt San Antonio College Academic Senate Executive Board commemorates Pride Month as a time to uplift LGBTQIA+¹ voices, culture, and historical achievements as well as recognizes this time to demonstrate support for the LGBTQIA+ community as it is currently being targeted by harmful legislation and political action nationwide and regionally², with the American Civil Liberties Union tracking³ a total of 491 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills in the United States this year, of which 228 are education-related, and Pen America has reported⁴ that from July to December 2022, 1,477 instances of individual books have been banned in the United States which overwhelmingly continue to target stories by and about people of color and LGBTQIA+ individuals; and,

Whereas, the Human Rights Campaign has declared a “state of emergency for LGBTQ+ people in the United States for the first time following an unprecedented and dangerous spike in anti-LGBTQ+ legislative assaults”⁵ and this legislative moral panic⁶ has endangered a significant number of transgender and nonbinary youth⁷; 86% of transgender and nonbinary youth say recent debates around anti-trans bills have negatively impacted their mental health; 45% of trans youth experienced cyberbullying, and nearly 1 in 3 reported not feeling safe to go to the doctor or hospital when they were sick or injured; and,

Whereas, the Mt. SAC mission statement⁸ commits “to support and to empower all students in achieving their educational goals in an environment of academic excellence,” and pledges to carry this out by “providing an engaging and supportive teaching and learning environment for students of diverse origins, experiences, needs, abilities, and goals” with our core values of integrity, equity and diversity, community building, student focus, social justice, lifelong learning, and positive spirit; and further, as outlined in the College’s Strategic Priority #1 , Mt. SAC aims to “foster an equitable, diverse, inclusive, just, and anti-racist campus culture that empowers our community to make positive change in society;” therefore,

Resolved, We, The Mt. SAC Academic Senate Executive Board, welcome, support, and value the contributions of the campus’ LGBTQIA+ students, staff, faculty, and administrators; and,

¹ <https://www.gsrc.princeton.edu/lgbtqia-101>

² [Protesters disrupt drag queen reading event at Sherman Oaks library - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)
[Pride flag burned at Saticoy Elementary while protests escalate - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)
[Newsom blasts school board head who called Harvey Milk 'a pedophile' - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)

³ <https://www.aclu.org/legislative-attacks-on-lgbtq-rights>

⁴ [2023 Banned Books Update: Banned in the USA \(pen.org\)](#)

⁵ <https://www.hrc.org/campaigns/national-state-of-emergency-for-lgbtq-americans>

⁶ <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/anti-trans-moral-panics-endanger-all-young-people/>

⁷ <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/blog/new-poll-emphasizes-negative-impacts-of-anti-lgbtq-policies-on-lgbtq-youth/>

⁸ <https://www.mtsac.edu/about/mission-and-goals.html>

Resolved, We call on the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the College, to acknowledge the rise in anti-LGBTQIA+ political action and legislation and to join us in solidarity with LGBTQIA+ students, staff, faculty, and administrators who deserve to be treated with respect and dignity; and,

Resolved, We, as educators in higher education, will assess how efforts to curtail access to information and education in K-12 systems through policies such as book banning, may affect student preparation and success in college curriculum,⁹ as well as continue to develop LGBTQIA+ professional learning opportunities; and,

Resolved, We urge the College to provide additional resources to the Pride Center during this critical time to focus on meeting the unique educational and basic needs of LGBTQIA+ students in a safe and welcoming environment.

Contact: Kelly Rivera, Mt. SAC Academic Senate Director

Approved by acclamation 6.8.2023 by the Academic Senate Executive Board

⁹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/02/10/how-k-12-book-bans-affect-higher-education>