



[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

100th SESSION
2024-2025

S. R. ##

AUTHORIZING REMOTE ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 1855 FOR BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

IN THE SENATE OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

JANUARY 30TH, 2025

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR LEON TO THE SENATE

A RESOLUTION

Authorizing Remote Attendance under AB 1855 for
Bakersfield College Student Government Association Meetings

1 **WHEREAS**, on September 14, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 1855,
2 Alternate Teleconferencing Provisions for California Community Student Body Associations and
3 Student-Run Organizations, effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill 1855 (AB 1855, Arambula) authorizes student body associations
5 and other student-run organizations at California Community Colleges to utilize teleconferencing
6 without disclosing participants' physical locations, provided that two-thirds of the organization's
7 legislative body approves and the Board of Trustees adopts a resolution authorizing its use; and

8 **WHEREAS**, AB 1855 still ensures transparency and public participation by requiring
9 teleconferenced meetings to provide call-in and internet-based access, with clear agenda

1 instructions for public engagement and a provision that no further action shall be taken if public
2 access is disrupted; and

3 **WHEREAS**, AB 1855 includes critical privacy protections for vulnerable individuals,
4 including but not limited to:

- 5 • Persons with disabilities requiring accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities
6 Act (ADA);
- 7 • Individuals under the age of 18;
- 8 • Incarcerated persons;
- 9 • Individuals under protective court orders or participating in confidential programs; and
- 10 • Caregivers whose responsibilities necessitate remote participation; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the bill mandates that a quorum of the student-run organization's members be
12 physically present at a public location within the community college district, while allowing exempt
13 individuals to count toward quorum remotely; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees must authorize BCSGA
15 meetings to use alternative teleconferencing provisions in accordance with AB 1855 as it relates
16 to notice, agenda, and public participation; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the adoption of this resolution ensures that all virtual participation adheres to
18 transparency, public access, and quorum requirements while enhancing engagement with
19 students who may face barriers to in-person attendance; and

20 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bakersfield College Student Government
21 Association formally requests the Board of Trustees adopt a resolution authorizing student-run
22 organizations to utilize the teleconferencing provisions outlined in AB 1855, effective immediately
23 through December 31, 2025; and

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that by implementing these provisions, Bakersfield College
25 formally affirms its commitments to accessible, equitable, and effective student leadership; and

26 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Kern
27 Community College Board of Trustees, the Office of Student Life, and any other relevant
28 stakeholders to facilitate its adoption and implementation.