

## **Resolution Requesting the ASUCLA Board of Directors to Cut All Contracts with Starbucks Coffee Company**

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 the Associated Students of the University of California, Los Angeles (ASUCLA) entered into a contract with Starbucks Coffee Company to replace Il Tramezzino at Anderson Cafe, expanding its existing offerings of Starbucks products across campus such as the ASUCLA’s catering services<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, ASUCLA expanded its offerings of Starbucks products to ScrubJay Café<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ASUCLA Board of Directors is solely responsible for entering into contracts or financial agreements on behalf of the Association, as such, has the authority to terminate where possible, or commit to not renewing existing contracts<sup>3</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has filed over 80 complaints against Starbucks for violation federal labor law and there have been over 500 unfair labor practice charges filed against Starbucks<sup>4</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the first Starbucks cafe location in the United States to unionize in December 2021, in Buffalo, New York, continues to demand that the company meets workers at the bargaining table to meaningfully negotiate a contract; and,

**WHEREAS**, Starbucks has employed the services of Littler Mendelson, a law firm that specializes in providing legal counsel to companies that actively union bust organizing campaigns, spending millions of dollars in legal fees rather than investing in the well-being of unionized employees; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 29th, 2023, former Starbucks C.E.O. Howard Shultz was summoned by U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders to testify at a hearing of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, testifying “Yes, I have billions of dollars. I earned it. No one gave it to me.”; and,

---

1

<https://www.asucla.ucla.edu/pressreleases/asucla-opens-new-caf-at-the-anderson-school-of-management-featuring-the-only-starbucks-on-ucla-campus>

<sup>2</sup> <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/stories/asucla-scrubjay-cafe-dachi-openings>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.asucla.ucla.edu/constitution>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.help.senate.gov/chair/newsroom/press/news-help-majority-staff-report-on-starbucks>

**WHEREAS**, according to research obtained from Harvard, UCSF, and the Economic Policy Institute, 63 percent of hourly employees at Starbucks make less than \$15 an hour – a majority of Starbucks employees don’t make a living wage<sup>5</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, in May 2023, the University of California Student Association (UCSA) Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution<sup>6</sup> in support of Starbucks Workers United, an affiliate labor union with Service Employees International Employees (SEIU); and,

**THEREFORE LET BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) stands in solidarity with unionized Starbucks workers across the country and demand that the company meets workers at the bargaining table in good faith; and,

**RESOLVED**, that the USAC will commit to supporting local and national efforts waged by Starbucks Workers United in support of workers demanding better working conditions and wages; and,

**RESOLVED**, that the USAC requests the ASUCLA Board of Directors to determine Starbucks’ repeated violations of labor law as plausible cause for the immediate termination of any contracts it has entered into with Starbucks; and,

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, if Starbucks continues to refuse bargaining in good faith with Starbucks Workers United, the USAC requests the ASUCLA Board of Directors to publish a statement affirming their intention to not renew any existing contracts with Starbucks and/or immediately terminating existing contracts where possible.

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.epi.org/company-wage-tracker/>

<sup>6</sup>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E63YioMImCnehX9c4eOGiqws7cnkA7JqbS--PNvwwas/edit?usp=sharing>