

**SENATE RESOLUTION
S.R. F16-005**

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TITLE	Resolution in Solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux and in Opposition to Dakota Access Pipeline

WHEREAS, the United States has historically shown a blatant disregard towards the legitimacy of the sovereign tribal governments of the Native American federally recognized tribes, by failing to recognize the validity of Native people’s occupation of land; and

WHEREAS, Standing Rock Sioux tribal land, containing sacred tribal sites and burial grounds, is being threatened by the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, an approximately 1,172-mile long pipeline which will carry crude oil from North Dakota to Patoka, Illinois¹; and

WHEREAS, this pipeline will be located within a half mile of the Standing Rock Sioux and runs a high risk of polluting Oahe Lake, as well as the Missouri and Cannon Ball rivers, which are primary sources of water for the tribe and many Americans in the region²; and

WHEREAS, Dakota Access’ initial draft environmental assessment of December 9, 2015 made no mention of the fact that the route they chose brings the pipeline near, and could jeopardize, the drinking water of the Tribe and its citizens²; and

WHEREAS, Dakota Access actually omitted the very existence of the tribe on all maps and any analysis, in direct violation of the US environmental justice policies; and

WHEREAS, the legality of the creation of the pipeline has come under intense scrutiny, as the case *Standing Rock Sioux Tribe vs. The U.S Army Corp of Engineers* that claimed the validity of the project’s continuance, did not thoroughly take into consideration the manner in which the

¹ <http://www.dapipelinefacts.com/>

² <http://standingrock.org/data/upfiles/media/Backgrounder%20DAPL%20SRST%20FINAL.pdf>

pipeline jeopardizes the tribe's survival³, and the U.S District Court overseeing the case promptly rejected the tribe's request to block the project due to the destructive implications it poses; and

WHEREAS, nearly 100 federally recognized Tribes stand in support of the Standing Rock Sioux, including the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Crow Creek Tribe, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and others⁴; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED that the Associated Students of the University of California, Riverside -

- (1) Stand in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and the water defenders, in opposition to the construction of Dakota Access Pipeline; and
- (2) Condemn the violent actions that Dakota Access' private security company have undertaken against the peaceful Native American land protectors who are standing up for the rights guaranteed to them by treaty with the United States Government; and
- (3) Encourage our brother & sister UC campuses to pass similar resolutions of solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux, if they have not done so already; and
- (4) Support the work of water defenders utilizing their First Amendment rights and peacefully demonstrating against the pipeline by any means necessary, including but not limited to: creating awareness about Dakota Access Pipeline on campus and organizing events to support the Standing Rock Sioux tribe.

INTRODUCED ON - November 7, 2016

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - November 7, 2016

VOTE COUNT - 5-0-1

SENATE APPROVED ON - November 9, 2016

VOTE COUNT - 12-0-0

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<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/joint-statement-department-justice-department-army-and-department-interior-regarding-standing>

⁴ <http://standingrock.org/data/upfiles/media/Backgrounder%20DAPL%20SRST%20FINAL.pdf>