Whereas, California’s K-12 schools, community colleges, and public universities face tremendous needs in classroom construction, restoration and earthquake retrofitting; and

Whereas, more than 2.4 million students are enrolled in California’s public higher education system, which includes the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges; and

Whereas, the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 will help prepare students for the workplace of the 21st century and high-skilled, high-wage jobs; and

Whereas, more than $35 billion per year is contributed to the state’s economy through California’s three higher education systems, and there is a direct correlation between California’s future economic and cultural prosperity and the availability of educational opportunities for its citizens through community colleges and other higher education institutions; and

Whereas, the total unmet facilities needs for the community college system have been estimated at approximately $18.1 billion to fund needed new facilities and upgrade existing buildings to meet enrollment growth and provide students access to new technologies; and

Whereas, the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 would provide $3.1 billion for public higher education facilities including $1.5 billion over the next two years for the California Community Colleges for building projects to serve the educational needs of the system’s 1.6 million students; and

Whereas, California’s historical policy of access to higher education for all eligible students is threatened, and

Whereas, passage of the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 would provide the Ohlone Community College District with significant funds for facilities, and

Whereas, the Ohlone Community College District believes that every effort should be made to inform voters about the impact of passage of the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 on local residents and students and their community college(s); now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Ohlone Community College District supports the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 and encourages students and voters to become aware of the pros and cons of passage of the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 and the impact of its passage upon Ohlone College.