Whereas, The 2007 Legislature established a State Salary Pool to enable state agencies to cover salary increases over the 2007-09 biennium; and

Whereas, legislative budget leaders decided in February to delay releasing the salary pool until after the June 2008 revenue forecast is available; and

Whereas not releasing the funds in June will reverse progress to increase funding for Oregon’s public universities accomplished by the governor and legislature during the last legislative session; and

Whereas, OSU stands to lose nearly $12 million in state general funds if the funds are not released; and

Whereas OSU will be forced to begin making cuts in July 2008 in order meet these budget reductions; and

Whereas the last time the legislature imposed a budget reduction in the middle of the biennium, OSU was forced to eliminate classes and raise tuition; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate urges Governor Kulongoski and the Oregon Legislative Assembly to take the necessary steps to release the entire $125 million State Salary Package when the Legislative Emergency Board meets in June, 2008.