RESOLUTION ON THE OATH OF OFFICE OR "LOYALTY OATH" (#04-95/96-FA)

WHEREAS, The Oath of Office as it is currently worded is anachronistic and inconsistent with basic principles of religious and academic freedom; and

WHEREAS, Some faculty of Humboldt State University and other California State University campuses have expressed strong misgivings about signing the oath as it is currently worded; and

WHEREAS, The Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 states that the "Government shall not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability, . . . " [Section 3.(a)]; and

WHEREAS, Prospective faculty have been denied employment solely for refusing to sign the "loyalty oath"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University urges the CSU Academic Senate to recommend to the Board of Trustees and to the Legislature to eliminate the oath of office or to revise it as an appropriate oath for educators.