

Hi, My name is Mason Koski, I'm a 20 year old, Queer, Mixed Race-Indigenous, DSPS Student, Environmentalist, Activist, PoliSci Major, a former SBA President & SSCCC Delegate, and the current SSCCC Region I Legislative Affairs Director, and running to be the next Region II Legislative Affairs Director!

I'm running for this position because while I've had the honour and privilege to represent Region I for these past few months after being unanimously elected back in March, I encountered a situation. I saw that Santa Rosa Junior College was building New Affordable Student Housing (one of the first schools in decades) that was much less of a financial burden, and opened a door for more educational opportunities for me, and so I switched schools, and by chance this position became vacant at the same time, and wanting to continue to be a voice for students, I'am running for this position and I'am asking for your vote.

I have had the honour to be able to serve in many different aspects of public service, from being a Student Educator with California's Tobacco Use Prevention Education Program, Sworn California Elections Worker/Poll Clerk, Voting Member of the Humboldt Progressive Democrats, Voting Member of the Wine Country Young Democrats, and as one of the youngest Assembly District Delegates, representing 185,000+ Voters from California's 2nd Assembly District to the California Democratic Party.

And with that knowledge and experience, I have been able to put those skills to use as LAD for Region I. From meeting with state legislators and local trustees to advocate for Affordable Student Housing, Zero/Discounted Textbook Courses, Increasing Funding for Food Pantries & Clothing Closets, Offering Free Bus Passes, Lowering Cateria Prices, etc. And have had actual constructive conversations, with positive results, because they appreciate not just me knowing about the subjects, but having experienced it, relying on it, and seeing what it's like first-hand.

And having lived in an area that is Rural, Very Nature Connected, Diverse, Housing Challenged, and much more, and like mentioned knowing first-hand in many instances, the difficulties many people, especially young people face, and the importance that a community college can play in providing resources that might not exist otherwise. We have those same things in common that connect us even though we are so far apart and very different on many levels, but whether you're pursuing an Associates, a Certification, a Licence, etc. Everyone should have an opportunity to thrive and have the resources to be a successful student and be at a place where they feel supported and welcomed and have a truly enriching experience.

The work I've been able to do during my time on the board has been amazing, and it'd be a honour to be able to continue advocating for students, for Rural Schools (which in a Region like ours, sadly often get overlooked), to representing ya'll, and fighting the good fight. I'am so thankful for everyone that saw something in me, to recruit, nominate, or recommend me, for every single position I've ever held. And I'am even more thankful that they are proud of the work that I've done, and I hope to be able to do that for you, we deserve representation that actually listens and takes that message and works to find solutions/voices it even louder, and that is what I will continue to do, and I humbly ask for your support, Thank You!

