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**RESOLUTION 202122-01**

**TO: Members of the Student Senate**  
**FROM: Rose Mostafa, Senator for Pride**  
**DATE: November 9th, 2021**  
**SUBJECT: Condemning the Requirement for Use of Prison Labor**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Recognizing and condemning, in the strongest possible terms, both the use of prison labor for items purchased by SUNY Cortland, and Corcraft's status as a preferred source under NYS Finance Law §162 and NYS State Corrections Law §184.

**RESOLUTION**

I recommend that the Senate of the SUNY Cortland Student Government Association adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, in the 2020-2021 fiscal year SUNY Cortland spent \$307,554.57<sup>1</sup> on products from Corcraft; and

Whereas, Corcraft is a preferred source according to NYS Finance Law §162 and NYS State Corrections Law §184; and,

Whereas, SUNY Cortland is required by law to consider the use of preferred sources for any purchase of a commodity or service; and,

Whereas, Corcraft is the so-called "brand name" of the Division of Correctional Industries; and,

Whereas, incarceration disproportionately affects Black, Indigenous, and people of color at rates of 1.4 to more than 9 times as much as their white counterparts<sup>2</sup>; and,

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<sup>1</sup> Approximately \$287k consisted of spending for the Moffett remodel.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/color-of-justice-racial-and-ethnic-disparity-in-state-prisons>

Whereas, Corcraft pays its incarcerated workers sub-minimum wages, as low as twenty-six cents per hour<sup>3</sup>; therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Senate acknowledges the use of prison labor for the manufacturing of products purchased by SUNY Cortland; and be it,

Resolved, that the Senate condemns in the strongest possible terms the continued use of Corcraft as a preferred source by the state of New York.

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<sup>3</sup><https://legalaidnyc.org/news/legal-aid-slams-corcraft-paying-incarcerated-new-yorkers-pennies-on-the-dollar/>