Fall 12-6-2017

28-17/18: Resolution Opposing the Graduate Tax

Abbigail Belcher
The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution Opposing the Graduate Tax
December 1, 2017
SB28-17/18
Authored by: Abbigail Belcher, ASUM Senator;
Sponsored by: Henry Curtis, ASUM Senator;

Whereas, Graduate school is already a financial burden for students, forcing many students to work multiple jobs and to take out loans;

Whereas, The proposed tax on graduate education will force students to pay taxes on tuition waivers, money that students don’t receive in a spendable form and are unable to earn because they are devoting time to education;

Whereas, The proposed tax bill eliminates work-study funding for graduate students, which prevents graduate students from becoming teaching assistants and disallows them the opportunity to work in their field and benefit undergraduate students;

Whereas, The proposed tax could make graduate school only accessible to students who can afford it without a tuition waiver;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That in the interest of representing graduate students at the University of Montana, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) vehemently opposes the implementation of a tax on tuition waivers;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM strongly urges Senator Steve Daines, Senator Jon Tester, and Representative Greg Gianforte to vote against changes to the taxation of tuition waivers during reconciliation;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to Steve Daines, US Senator; Jon Tester, US Senator; Greg Gianforte, US State Representative; the Graduate and Professional Student Committee (GPSC); and Scott Whittenburg, Vice President of Research and Creative Scholarship and Dean of the Graduate School.

Passed by Committee: __________________________ , 2017
Passed by ASUM Senate: __________________________, 2017

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Abbigail Belcher, Brenna Love,
Student Political Action Chair  Chair of the Senate