28-17/18: Resolution Opposing the Graduate Tax

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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