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28-17/18: Resolution Opposing the Graduate Tax

Abbigail Belcher

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Opposing the Graduate Tax**
3 **December 1, 2017**
4 **SB28-17/18**

5 **Authored by: Abbigail Belcher, ASUM Senator;**

6 **Sponsored by: Henry Curtis, ASUM Senator;**

7
8 Whereas, Graduate school is already a financial burden for students, forcing many students to work
9 multiple jobs and to take out loans;

10
11 Whereas, The proposed tax on graduate education will force students to pay taxes on tuition waivers,
12 money that students don't receive in a spendable form and are unable to earn because they are devoting
13 time to education;

14
15 Whereas, The proposed tax bill eliminates work-study funding for graduate students, which prevents
16 graduate students from becoming teaching assistants and disallows them the opportunity to work in their
17 field and benefit undergraduate students;

18
19 Whereas, The proposed tax could make graduate school only accessible to students who can afford it
20 without a tuition waiver;

21
22 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That in the interest of representing graduate students at the University of
23 Montana, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) vehemently opposes the
24 implementation of a tax on tuition waivers;

25
26 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM strongly urges Senator Steve Daines, Senator Jon Tester, and
27 Representative Greg Gianforte to vote against changes to the taxation of tuition waivers during
28 reconciliation;

29
30 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to Steve Daines, US Senator; Jon
31 Tester, US Senator; Greg Gianforte, US State Representative; the Graduate and Professional Student
32 Committee (GPSC); and Scott Whittenburg, Vice President of Research and Creative Scholarship and
33 Dean of the Graduate School.

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36 Passed by Committee: _____, 2017

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38 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2017

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43 _____
44 Abbigail Belcher,

Brenna Love,

45 Student Political Action Chair

Chair of the Senate