ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION

BILL NO. 54-21
INTRODUCED BY: Aridi SECONDED BY: VanHuyse

A RESOLUTION TO: Stand against the taxation of stipends and scholarships for educational organizations

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, Graduate students are a vital part of the MSU community, amounting to over 11,000 students; and,

WHEREAS, These graduate students directly contribute to the advancement of a fundamental and renowned aspect of MSU, namely research, which attracts leading scientists and scholars from the domestic and international communities; and,

WHEREAS, Many undergraduate students at MSU desire to continue their studies into Graduate school; and,

WHEREAS, The cost of graduate school is, on average, immense in scale; and,

WHEREAS, Students can still attend these institutions due to stipends and scholarships the University provides to cover the costs; and,

WHEREAS, For the last few decades the tax code allowed these funds the University bestowed to students to be waived from taxation via Title 26, Subtitle A, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Part III, § 117(d); and,

WHEREAS, The current iteration of Congress Bill H.R.1 “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act” means to amend Title 26, Subtitle A, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Part III, § 117(d) to define tuition reduction stipends or scholarships as taxable earned income; and,

WHEREAS, This would require excessive external funds to then be used to fund the remaining cost of graduate school, severely decreasing the income of graduate students and dissuading interest in becoming a graduate student; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) stands against any amendment or section of bill H.R.1 “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act” that would allow for tuition reduction scholarships or stipends to be classified as taxable income.

INTRODUCED ON Dec. 7, 2017

REFERRED TO General Assembly COMMITTEE ON N/A

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN N/A DATE

COMMITTEE ACTION PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN X Voice-Majority Dec. 7, 2017

PRESIDENT VPIA