

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



BILL NO. 61-104

INTRODUCED BY: Zakaria (APASO) SECONDED BY: Casper (NAISO)

CONTRIBUTORS: Guo (CDEIO)

A BILL TO: Advocate to Michigan State University to Provide Wages for URA Positions

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, Undergraduate Research Assistant (URA) positions provide students with valuable hands-on experience, professional development opportunities, and direct engagement in academic research; and,

WHEREAS, Many URAs currently work unpaid despite contributing to faculty research projects, performing essential research tasks, and enhancing the university's scholarly output; and,

WHEREAS, Research experience is critical for students pursuing graduate education and competitive careers, yet the lack of appropriate and compensation creates financial barriers for low-income and underrepresented students who cannot afford to take unpaid positions; and,

WHEREAS, Many student URAs have the option of only being compensated for their scholarly work through credit compensation. This leaves students who have reached the maximum credits per semester uncompensated because they are not eligible to obtain credits from their research work due to the credit limit per semester set by the university; and,

WHEREAS, It is important to provide alternate ways of compensating students for their participation in generating knowledge in-collaboration with MSU faculty that are

beyond just credit compensation; and,

WHEREAS, It is important to provide on-campus employees and contractees, including URAs, with a living wage that can provide for their basic needs, especially with inflation having increased by 2.6% since the beginning of 2024; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall advocate to the appropriate university officials to grant a universal wage for URA positions and require all faculty research labs to ensure that all of their URAs are able to compensated through either credit or an appropriate living wage, and to continually adjust this rate according to inflation and government data.

INTRODUCED ON 03.27.2025

REFERRED TO Academic **COMMITTEE ON** 03.20.2025

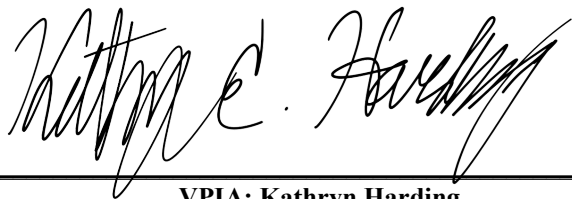
SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN _____ **DATE** _____

COMMITTEE ACTION	<u>X</u>	Voice Majority	<u>03.20.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE
			DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>	Voice Majority	<u>03.27.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE
			DATE



PRESIDENT: Connor Le



VPIA: Kathryn Harding