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



BILL NO. 61-38

	INTRODUCED	BY: Harding (VPIA)	SECONDED BY: Salinas (CSS
--	------------	--------------------	------------------------	------------

CONTRIBUTORS: President Le

A BILL TO: Allow ASMSU to Sign On to the Intercollegiate Pell Grant Op-Ed

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

- **WHEREAS**, Several institutions across the United States have written a letter to send to Congress in order to increase funding for the Pell Grant¹; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Pell Grant is the largest federal grant program for undergraduate students in the United States and is designed to assist students from low-income households²; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The doubling of the Pell Grant would allow for increased financial aid for students and which would help alleviate stress caused by financial hardship for students; and
- **WHEREAS**, ASMSU has precedence in supporting the doubling of the Pell Grant through the passage of Bill 58-03³; therefore be it,
- **RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall sign onto the Intercollegiate One Pager Op-Ed which can be found as Appendix 1.

INTRODUCED ON _		11.14.2024	
REFERRED TO	_Academic	COMMITTEE ON	_11.07.2024
SPECIAL ACTION TA	AKEN	DATE	

¹ Intercollegiate One Pager OpEd

²https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/article/federal-pell-grant-program

³ Bill 58-03 Advocate for Doubling the Pell Grant_Boling_Sawyer_Final (1).pdf

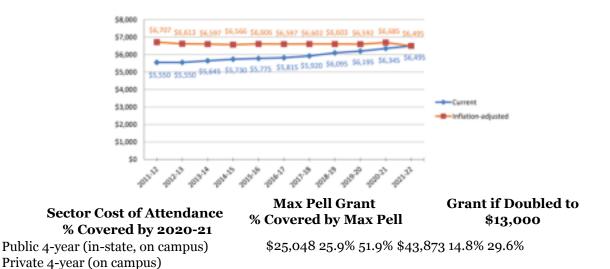
COMMITTEE ACTION _	X		Voice Majority	11.07.2024
_	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE VOTE	DATE
FINAL ACTION TAKEN_	X		Voice Majority	11.14.2024
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE
L. Le		Mitme. Farelly		
PRESIDENT: Conn	or Le		/ VPIA: Kathryn Hard	ing/

Appendix 1:

We believe that having a strong higher education system is essential to a country where social mobility is possible. As colleges and universities have come under fire for becoming increasingly insular, preservers of inequality, and unmeritocratic, and the near-term impossibility of broad-scale debt forgiveness, we should all rededicate ourselves to ensuring that our colleges and universities are equipped to provide support for *all* Americans — especially low-income, rural, veteran, and middle class students.

The Pell Grant program is the U.S. federal government's "foundational" system for helping low-income families pay the costs of college; in short, Pell Grants are financial aid packages given directly to students that qualify based on need. Most importantly, they don't need to be repaid. Pell Grants are a boon for the millions of students that receive them: Roughly half of first-generation college students and student parents, and almost 40% of student veterans, are Pell Grant recipients. Nearly 60% of Black students and roughly half of American Indian/Alaska Native and Hispanic students receive a grant each year.

However, as the costs of college have sharply risen — even outpacing inflation — funding for Pell Grants has failed to keep up..



We hold that **Congress should** *double* **the maximum Pell Grant with a fully mandatory funding structure and a 5% minimum Pell award** to reduce "eligibility cliffs" (people who just

barely fall out of the Pell range receiving nothing). This would mark a long overdue step to cover the rising costs of college and support those who have been left out of higher education for too long. This would:

- Double the grant for those with an expected family contribution (EFC) of zero and increase all other grants by the same amount.
- Expand the EFC range that qualifies students for Pell, which means more moderate-income students would be covered.