

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



**BILL NO. 61-70**

**INTRODUCED BY: Seidel (Education)**

**SECONDED BY: Sparks (CSS)**

**CONTRIBUTORS: Salinas (CSS), Harding (VPIA)**

**A BILL TO: Ensure Proactive Protections for Michigan State University Students in the Event of Federal Financial Aid Disruptions**

**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:**

**WHEREAS,** On January 28, 2025, the Trump administration announced a pause on federal grants and loans, initiating a comprehensive review of federal spending<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** While the Department of Education later clarified that Pell Grants and federal loans would not be affected, the initial announcement caused significant confusion and concern among students who rely on federal financial aid; and,

**WHEREAS,** This suspension threatened the financial stability of approximately 43% of Michigan State University students who depend on federal financial assistance to fund their education, potentially disrupting their ability to pay tuition, secure housing, and meet basic needs; and,

**WHEREAS,** Many students also rely on additional federal assistance programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), housing assistance, and other social safety nets that were not explicitly protected in the Department of Education's clarification; and,

**WHEREAS,** A lack of immediate communication or acknowledgment from the university regarding such policy changes can exacerbate student anxiety, leaving them uncertain about their financial and academic futures; and,

**WHEREAS,** The temporary nature of this specific policy reversal does not preclude the possibility of future federal actions that could impact student financial aid

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/27/politics/white-house-pauses-federal-grants-loan-disbursement/index.htm>  
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and support programs; and,

**WHEREAS,** It is critical for MSU to adopt proactive measures to ensure students are protected in the event of similar disruptions in the future; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED,** That the Associated Students of Michigan State University calls on the university administration to establish and/or continue a formalized emergency response protocol for federal financial aid disruptions, including a requirement for continued and immediate public statements acknowledging the developing situation and outlining university actions to support students; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU urges the university to develop a contingency plan to provide short-term emergency financial assistance, including institutional grants, emergency loans, or other funding sources for students impacted by future federal aid suspensions or delays; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU advocates for the expansion of financial counseling services to assist students not only with alternative funding sources but also with understanding and navigating federal assistance programs beyond direct student aid, such as SNAP and housing support; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU calls for the university to establish an ongoing partnership with state and local agencies to ensure that students relying on food assistance, housing support, and other critical federal programs receive timely information and support in the event of policy changes; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU urges the university to implement a standing emergency tuition deferment policy, allowing students affected by abrupt federal financial aid changes to maintain enrollment while they secure alternative funding; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU will actively advocate on behalf of students by engaging with university leadership, state and federal representatives, and student advocacy organizations to safeguard financial aid and assistance programs that are essential to student success; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED,** That ASMSU allows for the advocacy of this topic through the signing on to letters and other documents; and let it be further,

**RESOLVED**, That ASMSU supports the creation of an annual financial aid policy impact report by the university to assess vulnerabilities in the student financial aid system and propose proactive measures to mitigate future disruptions.

INTRODUCED ON 01.30.2025

REFERRED TO N/A COMMITTEE ON N/A

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN Floor Introduction DATE 01.30.2025

COMMITTEE ACTION	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE
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FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>		<u>Voice Majority</u>	<u>01.30.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

	
PRESIDENT: Connor Le	VPIA: Kathryn Harding