The Joint Governance Council
of the
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

RESOLUTION 002-004

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE REPEAL OF THE AID ELIMINATION PROVISION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

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<td>17 SEP 2018</td>
<td>INTRODUCED BY CHRISTIAN CORREA, JCG MEMBER AT LARGE</td>
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<td>JGC-002-00 PASSED BY THE JOINT GOVERNANCE COUNCIL</td>
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WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution empowers the legislative bodies of student governance to pass all legislation “necessary and proper to promote the general welfare of the student body” (Article IV, Section 8);

WHEREAS, the Aid Elimination Provision bars students convicted of drug possession from receiving federal financial aid for one year after the first offense, two years after the second, and indefinitely after the third;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Government Accountability Office indicated that it could find no evidence the Aid Elimination Provision “actually helped to deter drug use;”

WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, 63% of undergraduates rely on some form of financial aid to afford tuition;

WHEREAS, the Provision disproportionately harms low and middle-income students who cannot pay for their schooling without federal aid;

JGC-002-004

Certify correct and proper by

[Signature]
UG SBP

[Signature]
GPSF SBP
WHEREAS, the National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that high school graduates not enrolled in college are three times more likely to have used meth or heroin and are almost twice as likely to have used cocaine in the past year than those in college;

WHEREAS, the provision will exacerbate the current drug epidemic by forcing students to drop-out;

WHEREAS, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin;

WHEREAS, this provision perpetuates racial inequality, as people of color are disproportionately charged, arrested, and incarcerated for drug offense;

WHEREAS, the United States of America must maintain an educated workforce to compete in the global economy;

WHEREAS, the National Commission on Excellence in Education found that “If only to keep and improve on the slim competitive edge we still retain in world markets, we must dedicate ourselves to the reform of our educational system for the benefit of all—old and young alike, affluent and poor, majority and minority;”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JOINT GOVERNANCE COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL: The attached statement (Appendix A) supporting the repeal of the Aid Elimination Provision of the Higher Education Act be approved as the formal position of The Undergraduate Senate:

JGC-002-60064

Certify correct and proper by

[Signature]

UG SBP MM GPSF SBP
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached appendix shall be sent to the following parties to urge them to introduce legislation to repeal the Aid Elimination Provision of the Higher Education Act:

1. Richard Burr, Senator for the State of North Carolina,
2. Thom Tillis, Senator for the State of North Carolina
3. David Price, Representative for the State of North Carolina,
4. Margaret Spellings, President of the University of North Carolina systems,
5. Chancellor Folt, Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,
6. Clayton Summers, Vice Chancellor of Public Affairs and Secretary to the University,
7. Any other parties deemed necessary and appropriate.
Appendix A.

To Whom It May Concern,

Ensuring equitable access to higher education is imperative to the continued growth of our economy and civil society. A plethora of research has confirmed that a college education increases both health outcomes and income, while reducing criminality. This holds sizable benefits on both an individual and societal scale. The U.S. Government Accountability Office found no evidence to suggest that the Aid Elimination Provision deters drug use, but this provision is not only frivolous—it actively harms structurally disadvantaged populations and society at-large.

The Aid Elimination Provision bars countless low and mid-level income students from continuing their education, leaving only those who come from wealthy backgrounds and can afford to subsidize astronomical tuition rates to reap the benefits of a college education. It also disadvantages racial minorities, who are disproportionately more likely to be arrested, charged, and incarcerated for drug offences, even considering percent of drug use. The Aid Elimination Provision perpetuates a cycle of structural poverty and racism that has done insurmountable harm to students at the University of North Carolina and across the country. Therefore, the Undergraduate Student Government and The Graduate and Professional Student Federation, the student government associations of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, jointly call upon the Senators from the State of North Carolina, as well as the Representative of the 4th District of North Carolina, to repeal the Aid Elimination Provision of the Higher Education Act.

The Student Government of the University of North Carolina awaits a response from our Representatives, and looks forward to discussing a solution to this timely and relevant issue.

Done this day, the nineteenth of September two thousand and eighteen.

Savannah Putnam  
Student Body & USG President

Kenneth Echeverria  
Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate

Manuel Hernandez  
GPSF President

Michelle Hoffner O'Conner  
GPSF Vice President

Certify correct and proper by

UG SBP  GPSF SBP