

Texas A&M University
Graduate and Professional Student Council
General Assembly
2017-2018 Session

**A Resolution Against the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Provisions That
Will Increase Graduate Students' Tax Burden**

Presented by Monica Barbery and Brenna Lin on November 21, 2017

- Whereas: The Graduate and Professional Student Council exists to govern and to serve as the voice of all graduate and professional students at Texas A&M University.
- Whereas: On Thursday, November 2nd, 2017, Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX-8) introduced H.R.1 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act which would amend the Internal Revenue Code.
- Whereas: H.R.1 eliminates section 117(d), which provides 145,000 graduate students nationwide ¹, with exemptions for tuition waivers from taxable income.
- Whereas: Elimination of 117(d) will most likely result in increases in student debt in order for students to pay these taxes or their tuition. ²
- Whereas: H.R.1 eliminates section 127, which allows employers to offer employees up to \$5,250 annually in tuition assistance that is excluded from taxable income.
- Whereas: H.R.1 also repeals the Student Loan Interest Deduction, which will remove students' ability to deduct loan's interest payments and tuition expenses, likely to result in increases to debt.
- And
Whereas: The repeal of these sections from the Internal Revenue Code would result in a significant increase in the tax burden of graduate students and may also result in graduate stipends lower than the cost of living.
- Let it be
Resolved: The Graduate and Professional Student Council strongly discourages Congress to pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act with provisions eliminating sections 117(d), 127, and the Student Loan Interest Deduction, in order to allow graduate students to pursue postsecondary degrees without significant financial burden.

Let it be
Further
Resolved:

A copy of this resolution shall be posted and delivered to:

Sen. John Cornyn
U.S. Senate
Sen. Ted Cruz
U.S. Senate
Rep. Jodey Arrington
U.S. Representative
Rep. Brian Babin
U.S. Representative
Rep. Joe Barton
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kevin Brady
U.S. Representative
Rep. Michael C. Burgess
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Carter
U.S. Representative
Rep. Joaquín Castro
U.S. Representative
Rep. Mike Conaway
U.S. Representative
Rep. Henry Cuellar
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Culberson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Lloyd Doggett
U.S. Representative
Rep. Blake Farenthold
U.S. Representative
Rep. Bill Flores
U.S. Representative
Rep. Louie Gohmert
U.S. Representative
Rep. Vicente González
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kay Granger
U.S. Representative
Rep. Al Green
U.S. Representative

[1] U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. 2011-2012 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

[2] American Council on Education

<http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/Testimony-to-the-Senate-Committee-on-Finance-Hearing-on-Higher-Education-and-the-Tax-Code.aspx>

Rep. Gene Green
U.S. Representative
Rep. Jeb Hensarling
U.S. Representative
Rep. Will Hurd
U.S. Representative
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. Representative
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Sam Johnson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kenny Marchant
U.S. Representative
Rep. Michael McCaul
U.S. Representative
Rep. Beto O'Rourke
U.S. Representative
Rep. Pete Olson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Ted Poe
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Ratcliffe
U.S. Representative
Rep. Pete Sessions
U.S. Representative
Rep. Lamar S. Smith
U.S. Representative
Rep. Mac Thornberry
U.S. Representative
Rep. Marc Veasey
U.S. Representative
Rep. Filemon Vela, Jr.
U.S. Representative
Rep. Randy Weber
U.S. Representative
Rep. Roger Williams
U.S. Representative
Scott Sudduth
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Dr. Diane Hurtado

[1] U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. 2011-2012 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

[2] American Council on Education
<http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/Testimony-to-the-Senate-Committee-on-Finance-Hearing-on-Higher-Education-and-the-Tax-Code.aspx>

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Dr. Anne Reber

Dean of Student Life of Texas A&M University

Monica Barbery

Author of resolution

Brenna Lin

Author of resolution

Bobby Brooks

Student Body President

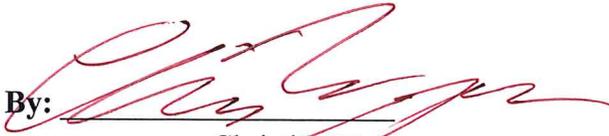
Jasmine Wang

SGA Speaker of the Student Senate

Joshua McCormick

Editor-in-Chief of the Battalion

Action Taken: Passed

Certified By: 

Christian Nygren

Executive Vice President

Date: 12/3/17

Duly Approved By: 

Matthew Etchells

President

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[2] American Council on Education

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