A University-Wide Opinion Resolution Supporting the Removal of Stipends for SGA Positions

Introduced by: Senator Livnat
Sponsor(s): Senator(s) M. Williams, Walker, J. Williams, Anthony, Speaker Madden, Director Blanding, Director Ogbono,
Submit Date: 7/18/2022
First Reading: 7/18/2022
Date Voted On: 7/18/2022
Date Passed: 7/18/2022
Date Vetoed: 8/05/2022

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association serves as the official voice of the students at Georgia State University, and,
WHEREAS, different positions in SGA are required to serve different amounts of office hours per week, and,
WHEREAS, some positions receive compensation for their required hours but others receive no such compensation, and,
WHEREAS, the SGA, as a leader among students and student organizations, should value all students’ time equally, and,
WHEREAS, the president is to receive $6,000, and,
WHEREAS, the EVPs are to receive $3,000 and,
WHEREAS, the Speakers are to receive $3,000 and,
WHEREAS, the Finance and Communication directors are to receive $0, and,
WHEREAS, the committee chairs are to receive $0, and,
WHEREAS, the senators are to receive $0, and,
WHEREAS, the senate clerk is to receive $0, and,
WHEREAS, the liaisons are to receive $0, and,
WHEREAS, We are not able to compensate any members not currently compensated,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE SENATE OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT

Section 1: To demonstrate our commitment to treating all students equally and to resoundingly clear that we, as an organization, do not condone the practice of wage discrimination, the University-wide Senate unequivocally renounces any support for a compensation model which would compensate some students and not others
Section 2: We the Student Government Association of Georgia State University demand that all stipends be removed and no members of SGA shall be compensated.
Section 3: This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Student Government Association, the welfare of the students requiring it.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE SENATE: VOTE for 12 against 1 abstentions

ACTION TAKEN BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

President Anthonio Prince    Date: 7/18/2022
As the President of the Student Government Association, I am committed to ensuring that all students are treated fairly and with respect. I do not condone the practice of wage discrimination. However, I am bound by the Student Government Association Judiciary's pending ruling on this matter. Clarity on procedures within the Student Government Association's bylaws and the constitutionally of pieces of legislation are vital to the effective and efficient operation of the Student Government Association. To ensure fairness and provide everyone with enough detail on the proper way to do things and what can and cannot be done, I petitioned the SGAJ.

Until the judiciary makes a final decision, I cannot pass legislation on this issue. I understand many students' frustration about this situation, but I hope they know my hands are tied. I remain committed to fighting for equality, and I hope the judiciary will soon reach a decision that aligns with our values. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

This bill is hereby vetoed.

Anthonio Prince, President
Student Government Association