

University of Baltimore Student Government Association Legislation 2021-2022 Resolution #15

Date introduced: 09/29/2021 Date voted upon: 09/29/2021 Status: Unanimously passed

Resolution #15: Asking Senator Ben Cardin and Senator Chris Van Hollen to Support the College for All Act

Introduced by: Senator Jacob Tuthill Sponsored by: Senator Jacob Tuthill Committee: Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Loan-Debt Forgiveness and Affordable Higher Education Written by: Senator Jacob Tuthill

WHEREAS: Rising costs for colleges, universities, and other higher education in recent years have contributed to a student loan debt crisis that has generational implications for the U.S. economy, in which 45 million people hold over 1.7 trillion dollars in student loan debt

WHEREAS: Unaffordable and unsustainable higher education costs prevent millions of lower-income and working-class students (disproportionately minorities, immigrants, and would be first-generation college students) from attending college and university due to cost

WHEREAS: The College for All Act, introduced by Sen. Sanders (VT) and Rep. Jayapal (WA-07), proposes eliminating tuition and fees at public colleges and universities for families making up to \$125,000 per year- nearly 80 percent of American families- while also making community college free for every person across the country.

WHEREAS: This Act, if passed by Congress, would represent the most substantial federal investment in higher education in American history, at a time when American talent, education, and leadership is desperately needed around the world

WHEREAS: 63 percent of Americans are in favor of tuition-free college, including 68 percent of women, 73 percent of young adults (18-29), 82 percent of Hispanic-Americans, and 86 percent of African-Americans- tuition free public college is strongly favored by historically marginalized groups who have often faced barriers to higher education throughout this nation's history (https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/08/11/democrats-overwhelmingly-favor-free-college-tuition-while-republicans-are-divided-by-age-education/)

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED:

Section One: The University of Baltimore Student Government Association, on behalf of our students, asks Senator Ben Cardin and Senator Chris Van Hollen to support the College for All Act

Section Two: The Student Government Association asks the University of Baltimore Faculty Senate and Staff Senate to explore passing a similar resolution on behalf of their constituents

Section Three: The Student Government Association will share this resolution with other Student Governments in the state of Maryland and elsewhere to encourage their state representatives to take a stance in support of tuition-free public colleges and universities for all

Vice President Sabrina Bridglal

_____Sabrina Bridglal_____ (signature) Daniel Khoshkepazi _____ (signature)

President Daniel Khoshkepazi