

JOINT STUDENT GOVERNMENTS

Annual Joint Student Government Session
September 19th, 2017
J.R.2

Sponsors: UISG Senator Sanchez

Committees: Student Life Committee

Joint Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

A Joint Resolution

On the subject of student-oriented affordable housing in Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty.

1. Short Title

This resolution may be cited as the “Joint Resolution on Affordable Housing”.

2. Background

In 2016, a survey administered by the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) found that undergraduate students’ average off-campus rent was \$564. A full-time undergraduate student working a campus job at the maximum number of hours allowed per week (20) at a minimum wage university job (\$8.20/ hr) would earn \$656 *before* taxes. Thus, the average undergraduate student rent is 85.98% of the aforementioned undergraduate student earning potential. Likewise, room and board costs make up 46% of resident undergraduate students’ average cost of attendance.

Graduate Teaching Assistants (TA) and Research Assistants (RA) in half-time appointments earn \$1,901.60 per month *before* taxes¹. In 2011-2015, the U.S. Census Bureau reported the median rent for a unit in Coralville was \$793² and in Iowa City, the median rent for a unit was \$865³. A graduate TA or RA living in Coralville, paying median rent, would spend 41.7% of their monthly income on housing and a graduate TA or RA living in Iowa City, paying median rent, would spend 45.5% of their monthly income on housing.

In defining the people who need affordable housing, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) says, “*Families who pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing*”

¹ <https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/graduate-assistant-employment-2017-2018>

² <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/coralvillecityiowa,US/HSG860215>

³ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/iowacitycityiowa.coralvillecityiowa,US/HSG860215>

are considered cost burdened and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical care”⁴.

It is clear that the people HUD is referencing includes students⁵. However, there are few opportunities for students to find affordable housing.

The rising costs of rent, given the fixed incomes of students, is a growing burden on undergraduate students, graduate students, and their families and may inhibit their access to adequate food, clothing, medical care, and a quality education.

Section 3. Position

Resolved, The University of Iowa Student Government and the Graduate and Professional Student Government strongly encourage affordable housing measures within the University community; and

Resolved, we encourage the University of Iowa and the cities of Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty to collaborate in order to achieve a more affordable housing market for students and community members; and

Resolved, we encourage the cities of Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty to continue to implement economic policies that benefit students; and,

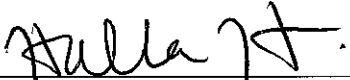
Resolved, this document will be sent to the City Councils of Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty; and,

Resolved, this document will be sent to the University of Iowa administration

4. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by University of Iowa Student Government and Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signatures of President Simpson and President Sharma.

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2017-2018 Student Senate Session.



⁴ https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/


⁵ https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/

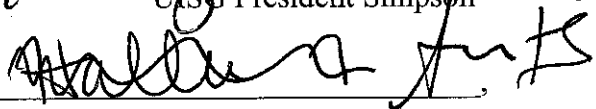
UISG Speaker of the Senate Haygood

I hereby attest and certify that this resolution originated from the 2017-2018 Joint Governments Session.


UISG Secretary Phalen

APPROVED on Sept. 19, 2017


UISG President Simpson


GPSG President Sharma

JOINT STUDENT GOVERNMENTS

Annual Joint Student Governments Session
September 19, 2017
J.R. 1

Sponsor: UISG Senator Prendergast and [GPSG]

Committees: Governmental Relations

Joint Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

A Joint Resolution

On the subject of student voter registration and active civic engagement.

Section 1. Short Title

This resolution may be cited as the “Joint Resolution on Voter Registration and Civic Engagement.”

Section 2. Background

While millennials are the largest and most diverse generation in history, they vote at rates much lower than expected. In 2014 19.9 percent of individuals ages 18-29 voted population¹. In 2016, 50 percent of young adults age 18-29 voted². Millennials have the opportunity to make their voices heard when they vote. In the last year, UISG and GPSG have worked to increase voter registration, voter engagement, and civic engagement efforts on the University of Iowa campus. Through a partnership between UISG and GPSG, Turbo Vote, an online tool providing voter registration assistance and election reminders has been provided to our campus.

Section 3. Position

As a result of young people historically voting at lower levels and a lack of opportunity for students to become civically engaged on our campus, student issues have not been elevated to the proper level. A number of our peer and Big Ten institutions have dedicated more monetary and staff resources to voter registration and civic engagement. For student issues, such as tuition affordability, jobs for graduates, and mental health funding to be taken seriously, students must vote and become an engaged member of their community.

A component of the Iowa Challenge is Engage. UISG and GPSG have made it their mission to engage our campus in the world around them, be it through voter registration, advocacy efforts, or bringing elected officials to campus. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, UISG and GPSG will continue their partnered efforts to increase voter registration and electoral participation at the University of Iowa.

Resolved, UISG and GPSG will work to foster a more civically engaged university of Iowa through voter registration events and registering students to vote, education on current government affairs that

¹ <http://civicyouth.org/2014-youth-turnout-and-youth-registration-rates-lowest-ever-recorded-changes-essential-in-2016/>

² <http://civicyouth.org/quick-facts/youth-voting/>


affect students, increasingly engage with the student population to provide opportunities for civic involvement, and pursuing opportunities to interact with elected officials and candidates.

Resolved, UISG and GPSG will encourage the University of Iowa administration to increase our campus' civic engagement efforts in conjunction with the student governments, faculty senate, and staff council.

4. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by University of Iowa Student Government and Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signatures of President Simpson and President Sharma.

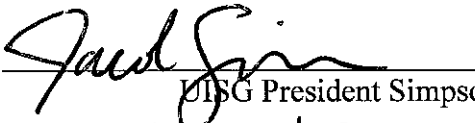
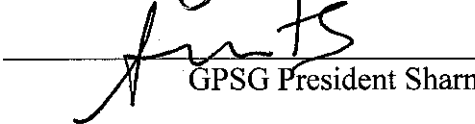
I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2017-2018 Student Senate Session.


UISG Speaker of the Senate Haygood

I hereby attest and certify that this resolution originated from the 2017-2018 Joint Governments Session.


UISG Secretary Phalen

APPROVED on Sept. 19, 2017


UISG President Simpson

GPSG President Sharma

Joint Student Governments
Annual Joint Student Governments Session
September 19, 2017
J.R.3

Sponsors: UISG Senator Schintler

Committees: Health and Safety, Governmental Relations

Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

A Joint Resolution

Supporting current protections under Title IX in regards to sexual assault and the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter.

Section 1. Short Title

This resolution may be cited as the “Joint Resolution supporting Title IX protections and The 2011 Dear Colleague Letter in Regards to Sexual Assault”.

Section 2. Background

The Department of Education, led by Secretary Betsy DeVos, is considering alterations or roll backs to Title IX protections regarding sexual assault and the guidance under the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter. This letter provides universities necessary guidance for following Title IX procedures, and altering it could result in a regression of the progress the University of Iowa has made to protect and defend victims/survivors fairly and promptly.

Title IX requires schools to respond in circumstances where a student may experience a hostile learning environment, and the Dear Colleague Letter explains the procedural guidelines for how a school should respond to cases of sexual violence. This includes taking immediate and timely action to respond to reports.

The Dear Colleague Letter specifies a number of other important guidelines for Universities and colleges to follow under the preponderance of evidence standard. These include, but are not limited to, a swift reaction time when an assault is reported, how universities should handle corresponding criminal cases brought about by the assault, how and when each party involved in a university investigation should be notified of different steps in the process, and preventative measures to be taken in order to prevent sexual assault on campuses.

The University of Iowa had implemented several of these standards prior to the Dear Colleague Letter. Currently, the procedures followed by the University of Iowa regarding sexual

misconduct can be found in Chapter 2 of the University of Iowa Operations Manual.¹ This allows for procedures such as a student judicial procedure, consideration of aggravating factors when adjudging sexual misconduct, accommodations that may be granted to a student, and more. Additionally, the University of Iowa has a number of other resources available to students such as the Rape Victim Advocacy Program, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Monsoon United Asian Women of Iowa, the Women's Resource and Action Center, University Counseling Services, and more, which all work together with our Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator to deal with sexual misconduct on campus.

Section 3. Position

Resolved, The University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) and the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) stands against any changes to the protections provided under Title IX and the guidance provided by the Dear Colleague Letter. We also oppose any reductions to the protections currently offered by the University of Iowa in result of the Dear Colleague Letter, regardless of potential alterations by the federal government; and

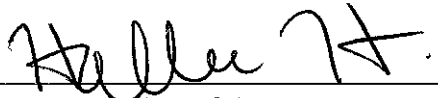
Resolved, UISG and GPSG request that The University of Iowa release a public statement committing to uphold all current policies and procedures regardless of any potential alterations to Title IX or the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter; and

Therefore be it resolved, the University of Iowa Student Government and the Graduate and Professional Student Government jointly support current protections under Title IX in regards to sexual assault and the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter.

4. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by University of Iowa Student Government and Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signatures of President Simpson and President Sharma.


I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2017-2018 Student Senate Session.



UISG Speaker of the Senate Haygood

¹<https://opsmanual.uiowa.edu/students/sexual-misconduct-datingdomestic-violence-or-stalking-involving-students>

I hereby attest and certify that this resolution originated from the 2017-2018 Joint Governments Session.


UISG Secretary Phalen

APPROVED on Sept 9, 2017


UISG President Simpson


GPSG President Sharma