

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211
Honolulu HI 96822

In the Senate
April 8, 2015

Senate Resolution 26-15
For First Reading

A Resolution Calling Upon the University of Hawa‘i at Mānoa to petition our Hawaii State Congressional Leaders to *Fund the Future* in response to the U.S. FY2016 Budget Proposals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS,** the Associated Students of the University of Hawa‘i at Mānoa (ASUH) Senate is the elected body representing approximately 14,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS,** the need for increased college access and affordability has been magnified by the rising unemployment numbers and the current state of our economy; and
- WHEREAS,** the average cost of tuition has gone up by 1120%, and four times the rate of inflation, since 1978; and
- WHEREAS,** students in the U.S. currently graduate with an average of \$29,400 in student loan debt,
- WHEREAS,** the University of Hawa‘i at Mānoa, in state tuition is currently higher than national average.
- WHEREAS,** the Pell Grant subsidizes higher education for 9.4 million students around the country giving an average award of \$3,555,
- WHEREAS,** the Pell Grant covers only 32% of average college costs, compared to 77% it covered around the time of its inception,
- WHEREAS,** the United States Student Association is the oldest and largest national student association representing over 1.5 million students across the country, had a historical role in the very creation of the Pell Grant,
- WHEREAS,** the United States Student Association’s *Fund the Future* campaign is seeking to strengthen the Federal Pell Grant Program by increasing the maximum award, creating a stable funding stream, making attainment more flexible, ensuring yearly increases, and extending it to more underserved and middle class families,

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Associated Student of the University of Hawa‘i at Mānoa formally endorses the *Fund the Future* campaign,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Student of the University of Hawa‘i at Mānoa shall support the *Fund the Future* campaign in actively working to encourage the United States Congress to recognizes our demands and propose changes to the Federal Pell Grant Program by engaging in (but not limited to) petition collecting, class

announcements, campus events, advocacy visits, submission of opinion editorials to campus newspaper, social media blasts and cooperation with the United States Student Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the US Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the US Senate, US Senator Brian Schatz, US Senator Mazie Hirono, US Representative Tulsi Gabbard, US Representative Mark Takai, the Chairman of major committees that dealt with the FY2016 budget, Hawaii State Governor David Y. Ige, Hawaii State Lt. Governor Shan S. Tsutsui, the Hawaii State House of Representatives, the Hawaii State Senate, United States Student Association (USSA) President Maxwell John Love and executive members, the University of Hawai‘i President David Lassner, the UH Board of Regents Chair Randy Moore and Members, UH Foundation Directors, UH Mānoa Interim Chancellor Bley-Vroman, UH Mānoa Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, UH Student Caucus delegates, UH Mānoa Director of Financial Aid Jodie Kuba, Aikea at UH, Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (ASUH) President Stephen Nishihara and members, and all UH system student government executives and members.

Krystal Shon
Senator of the Colleges of Arts & Sciences
Introducing Member

Sierra Callihan
Senator of the Colleges of Arts & Sciences
Co-Introducing Member

Lauren Tagaban
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