

R W2021.06

A Resolution for the College of Literature, Science, and Arts to Formally Endorse and Support Assembly Resolution 10-035 in the Central Student Government Calling for the University of Michigan to Repeal and Refund the International Student Fee

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

Date: January 31, 2021

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Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, LSA SG seeks to uphold the University of Michigan’s esteemed global reputation, and the international students attending the institution makes it possible for the University of Michigan to be one of the best public universities in the world; and,

Whereas, during the 2019 academic year, the University of Michigan had 7,255 international students, totalling to approximately 15% of the student body;² and,

Whereas, international students are a significant contributor to the regional economy, attributing over \$373.4 million to the local economy and \$1.2 billion to the state economy;³ and,

Whereas, in July 2019, the Regents of the University of Michigan applied a new international student fee, costing international students \$500/semester; and,

Whereas, the University of Michigan collected over \$2.3 million through the international student fee, however the University of Michigan has refused to disclose the use and application of the international student fee, despite the increased calls from international student organizations on campus to do so; and,

Whereas, Assembly Resolution 10-035 introduced in the Central Student Government at the University of Michigan calls for “the Regents [to] repeal and refund the \$500 fee for all international students” and for “the Provost [to] provide full transparency on how the international student fee has been used thus far and how they plan to use the fee for as long as it is charged”;⁴ and,

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

² <https://president.umich.edu/about/mission/>

³ https://internationalcenter.umich.edu/sites/default/files/Annual_Report.pdf

⁴ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OiaLsutvliRmJs6Iarm8eaeZmKc9DzInvvNt7g5sJaU/edit>

Be it therefore resolved, that LSA SG supports the calls for the international student fee to be repealed and refunded by the University of Michigan board of Regents and for the Provost to provide absolute transparency in the use and application of the international student fee to the University of Michigan student body; and,

Be it further resolved, that LSA SG supports CSG in their efforts to urge the Provost and Vice President for Student Life to establish a task force in cooperation with international students and other related student organizations which will investigate the needs of international students and create a set of goals and plans to “better academically, financially, physically and mentally serve international student”;⁵ and,

Be it finally resolved, that LSA SG formally endorses Assembly Resolution 10-035 in the Central Student Government and that it be passed and implemented by all respective parties.

⁵ Ibid #4.