

December 14, 2017

President Satish K. Tripathi
University at Buffalo
501 Capen Hall

Dear President Tripathi,

On behalf of the University at Buffalo Faculty Senate Executive Committee, it is my pleasure to present to you the **'Resolution of The Faculty Senate Executive Committee Endorsing The Graduate Student Association's Petition to the Administration of UB'**. This resolution was created and endorsed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at the meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2017.

As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I respectfully transmit this resolution for your consideration, signature, and promulgation. We would appreciate a response within 30 days of the receipt of this letter. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Philip L. Glick, MD, MBA, FACS, FAAP, FRCS (Eng.)
Chair, UB Faculty Senate,
Senator, SUNY Faculty Senate (Health Sciences Schools)
MBA Liaison for UB Health Sciences Schools and UB School of Management Collaborative Programs, and
Professor of Surgery and Management
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York

CC: Provost Charles Zukoski
Professor Gwen Kay, President of SUNY University Faculty Senate
Tanja Aho, President, UB Graduate Student Association

Attachment: **'Resolution of The Faculty Senate Executive Committee Endorsing The Graduate Student Association's Petition to the Administration of UB'**

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Faculty Senate

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**Resolution of The Faculty Senate Executive Committee Endorsing
The Graduate Student Association's Petition to the Administration of UB**

To: President Satish K. Tripathi

From: The Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas the University at Buffalo is a Tier I Research University;

Whereas a robust set of graduate programs across the disciplines is indispensable to UB's mission and to its standing among other Tier I Universities;

Whereas the graduate students at UB, in addition to the service they perform in teaching and research, are the future scientists and scholars and teachers of this country;

Whereas Sections 1204 and 1201 of the proposed federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, by taxing tuition waivers as income and repealing student loan interest deductions, seriously compromise the ability of graduate students to complete their degrees and discourage other students from even attempting to enter a graduate program;

And **Whereas**, we the FSEC strongly believe that the proposed changes to the tax bill HR1: the tax law related to taxation of the graduate student stipends and tuition waiver will decrease the quality of, and access to higher education, future innovation, and economic impact in the USA.

Be it therefore resolved that:

We the Faculty Senate Executive Committee strongly oppose the passage of this bill. Pursuant to further discussion, we endorse the petition of the UB Graduate Student Association calling on the administration of UB:

- 1) To issue an official statement supporting the removal of Sections 1204 and 1201 from the Jobs Act; and
- 2) In the event of passage of either of those sections, to provide a plan for changes to the costs of graduate education, particularly tuition, to counter the sections' effects.

Sent for Consideration on: December 14, 2017