"H.R. 1880 'College For A1P Ask of Support"



Proposed Motion: Motion to Approve Endorsement of H.R.

Sponsor: Ana Ramirez, AS VP for Governmental Affairs **Persons of Contact:** Ana Ramirez

Date: October 12th, 2017 **Attached Document**

Attached is the *copy of the bill H.R. 188, "College For All"* <u>https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/hrl880/BILLS-115hrl880ih.pdf</u> The summary of the bill from Congresswoman Pramilla Jayapa's office: <u>https://i a yapai .house, gov/sites/iayapal. house. gov/files/College%20F or%20All%20Act%2</u> 0Final%202-Pager.pdf

Background & Context

On August 17th, 2017 the AS Board of Directors heard from Giovanna Orrechio, a Western student who was at the time interning for Congresswoman Pramilla Jayapal's office. The request is that the ASWWU endorses H.R. 1880. Requests for bill endorsements usually go through the Legislative Affairs Council first then the AS Board of Directors, however as the Legislative Affairs Council has not yet reached quorum and been able to start meeting the request goes through the AS Board of Directors.

Summary of Proposal

Motion to approve for the ASWWU to endorse H.R. 1880.

Fiscal Impacts

This motion has no fiscal impacts.

Rationale

H.R. 1880 eliminates tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities for those making up to \$125,000 and makes community college tuition and fee free for all, cuts student loan interests in half, allows Americans to re-finance student loans at the lowest interest rate possible, prevents the federal government from profiting off of the student loan programs, ensures students can attend college without taking on massive debt, eliminates or reduces tuition and fees for low income students at private colleges and universities that serve historically underrepresented minorities, provides funding to eliminate equity gaps in higher education attainment, and is paid for by a tax on Wall Street speculation. As a four year public college, many of our own students would benefit tremendously from this bill, as well as allow for more students to be able to afford to come for Western. Many students that go to Western have student loans and with HR 1880 they would be able to refinance their loans. With HR 1880 higher education would be far more accessible to all students.