



UCSA Internship Tax Credit Resolution

WHEREAS, about one half of University of California students¹, and about one half of Californian students in general², graduate with student loan debt;

WHEREAS, the average student loan debt of a college student in California among those that are indebted is about \$19,000²;

WHEREAS, the average national student loan debt for graduate and professional students is \$54,740⁷;

WHEREAS, the overall affordability of college is continuing to decline, as the average cost of a 4-year university is currently growing at a greater rate than the country's Consumer Price Index³;

WHEREAS, a large proportion (number) of college students in California work at unpaid internship(s) while attending college;

WHEREAS, unpaid internships have not been proven to provide college graduates in general an overall advantage in the pursuit of a job, given that college graduates who have worked as unpaid interns are significantly less likely to receive a job offer than college graduates that worked as paid interns⁴;

WHEREAS, a large proportion (number) of employers across the country have failed⁵ to provide their unpaid interns with working conditions that are subjected to the Fair Labor Standards Act's six criteria on unpaid internships⁶;

WHEREAS, a stimulating expansion of paid internships for interns that are, and were previously, enrolled in higher education across California would most likely increase the availability of paid internships for Californian students in higher education, and most likely reduce California's overall demand for federal student loans;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) will formally urge Governor Jerry Brown, President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg, Speaker of the Assembly John Pérez, and numerous Assemblymembers and State Senators to pass a state bill that would establish a state-wide tax credit for businesses that pay their interns enrolled in higher education, or interns with outstanding student loan debt, at the state minimum wage.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that all of UCSA's campus representatives present a resolution to their student governments that calls for the establishment of their government's commitment, at any possible extent, towards the implementation of a tax credit for the payment of interns enrolled in higher education, including graduate and undergraduate students, and interns with outstanding student loan debt; and that each student government reports their decision to UCSA by no later than November 14th, 2013.

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that UCSA will resolve what type of action its space feels appropriate to take at their next board meeting towards accomplishing the goal of establishing the state-wide internship tax credit proposal.

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Sources

- 1 - <http://accountability.universityofcalifornia.edu/index/3.7>
- 2 - http://projectonstudentdebt.org/state_by_state-data.php
- 3 - <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2013/06/student-loan-debt-charts>
- 4- <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2013/06/do-unpaid-internships-lead-to-jobs-not-for-college-students/276959/>
- 5- <http://www.nacweb.org/s06262013/unpaid-internship-FLSA-guidelines.aspx>
- 6- <http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs71.pdf>
- 7- National Center for Education Statistics. 2011 Tables and Figures: Digest of Education Statistics: Table 362. Data available at: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d11/tables/dt11_362.asp

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