



1516-41 Legislative Agenda Resolution

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Thomas D. Mastro, *President*

DATE: 10/22/2015

SUBJECT: Legislative Agenda Authorization

Action Requested

Approve the 2015-2016 Legislative Agenda for State and Federal advocacy

Resolution

I recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas Government policy, both state and federal, is crucial to the success and future of the SUNY System be it therefore

Resolved that the 2015-2016 Legislative agenda shall be:

- Community College Base Aid
 - Encourage the state to meet their statutory obligation in regard to aid per full-time equivalent (FTE)
- TAP for Graduate Students
 - Advocate that the Tuition Assistance Program be expanded to include in-state graduate students
- TAP for Part-Time Students
 - Advocate the the Tuition Assistance Program be expanded to include all part-time in-state students
- Child Care center funding
 - Advocate for budget increases for SUNY childcare centers in order to help provide affordable and accessible childcare to SUNY students and employees in addition to community members

- Disability Accommodations
 - Encourage the state to invest in facility accessibility on SUNY campuses
 - Advocate that the state establish (in conjunction with System Administration) minimum accessibility standards, encompassing the breadth of diverse disabilities
 - To invest in the subsequent projects pertaining to accessibility
- Textbook affordability
 - Advocate the state legislature to invest in alternatives to print textbooks such as open educational resources and print on demand technology and services.
- Minimum Wage Increase for Work-Study*
 - Advocate to increase the work study minimum wage to \$12.00 per hour and include an automatic increase clause commensurate to cost of living increases.
- Expedited Refund Reform*
 - Advocate for quicker returns on refunds for students; not university-wide
 - Account for new FAFSA process through Obama administration
- Student Loan Interest Rates*
 - Supports measures in federal legislative action to lower student loan interest rates in addition to untying rates from the market and establishing lower, permanently fixed rates

*Federal level advocacy