

Resolution 28

**A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTILED AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL
RECOMMENATION FOR TUITION REVIEW AND RECONSIDERATION
CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE TUITION INCREASE FOR THE 2010-2011
ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**

Short Title: Tuition Reconsideration Act

Sponsors: Senators Kouba and Bloodworth

Secondary Sponsors: Senators Lindh and Hayes

Signatories: SBP Ceresnak, SSP Rogers

Referred to: Tuition and Fees Committee

Version: Committee Version

First Reading: October 14th, 2009

Second Reading: November 11, 2009

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The One-Hundred Forty-Eighth session of the North Carolina General Assembly
2 was convened on January 28th, 2009 ; and,
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- 4 **WHEREAS,** During the One Hundred Forty-Eighth session the General Assembly passed
5 Senate Bill 202 titled the Appropriations Act of 2009; and,
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- 7 **WHEREAS,** According to the Joint Conference Committee Report on the Continuation,
8 Expansion and Capital Budgets for Senate Bill 202; contained within the
9 Appropriations Act of 2009 was a mandated tuition increase of the lesser either
10 two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or eight percent (8%) at all institutions of the
11 University of North Carolina (UNC) system for the fiscal year 2010-2011 to be
12 applied to both residents and non-resident students at the undergraduate and
13 graduate school levels; and,
14
- 15 **WHEREAS,** According the North Carolina State Constitution in Article IX Section 9 it is
16 quoted that “The General Assembly shall provide that the benefits of the
17 University of North Carolina and other public institutions of higher education, as
18 far as practicable, be extended to the people of the State free of expense.”; and,
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- 20 **WHEREAS,** Included in the budget priorities submitted by the UNC Board of Governors in
21 November 2008 was a request that any tuition increase be accompanied by
22 additional funds for the UNC need-based financial aid program in order to hold
23 recipients harmless from the effects of increases in the cost of education; and,
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- 25 **WHEREAS,** Over the last ten academic years (2000-2009), on average, forty-two percent
26 (42%) of any tuition increase has returned to North Carolina State University in
27 the form of need based financial aid; and,

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29 **WHEREAS,** During the 2009-2010 academic school year, students demonstrating financial
30 need had approximately seventy percent (70%) of their needs met with
31 scholarships and grant aid; and,
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33 **WHEREAS,** According to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at North Carolina State
34 University, the legislative mandated tuition increase will require approximately
35 two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) in additional funds to fully cover the
36 projected increased expenses for financially-needy undergraduates; and,
37

38 **WHEREAS,** A tuition review advisory committee is formed at North Carolina State University
39 every year to review tuition increase procedures; and,
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41 **WHEREAS,** During the 2009-2010 academic school year, North Carolina State University's
42 Tuition Review Advisory Committee recommended an increase of one hundred
43 fifty dollars (\$150.00) for undergraduate residents and two hundred dollars
44 (\$200.00) for undergraduate nonresidents, graduate residents, and graduate
45 nonresidents; and,
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47 **WHEREAS,** The committee recommended that the additional tuition revenues be used to hold
48 harmless financial need-based students with the respect to the increase in tuition;
49 and,
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51 **WHEREAS,** The Tuition Review Advisory Committee recommended that forty and sixth
52 tenths percent (40.6%) of any tuition increase be allocated to need-based financial
53 aid, twenty-three and three tenths percent (23.3%) be allocated to critical needs of
54 quality and accessibility, and eleven and two tenths percent (11.2%) be allocated
55 to the Graduate Student Support Program; and,
56

57 **WHEREAS,** The North Carolina State University Tuition and Fees Conference Committee
58 recommended that fifty percent (50%) of the tuition increase be allocated to need-
59 based financial aid, eleven and two tenths percent (11.2%) be allocated to the
60 Graduate Student Support Program, and thirty-nine and eight tenths (39.8%) of
61 the tuition increase be allocated to critical needs of quality and accessibility; and,
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63 **WHEREAS,** Forty-three percent (43%) of North Carolina State University students are
64 currently defined as needy, by meeting some criteria to qualify for any amount of
65 financial aid; and,
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67 **WHEREAS,** A 'Campus Initiated Tuition Increase' provides the best formula to afford the
68 correct amount of funding be allocated to financial aid in order to hold need based
69 financial aid recipients harmless from any tuition increase; and,
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71 **WHEREAS,** Several endowed scholarships that provided need-based financial aid were lost
72 due to the current economic downturn; now therefore be it,

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74 **RESOLVED**, The North Carolina State University Student Senate urges that the North Carolina
75 General Assembly amend the Appropriations Act of 2009 so that any tuition
76 increase adheres to the existing ‘Campus Initiated Tuition Increase’ process ; and
77 be it further,

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79 **RESOLVED**, In the event any tuition increase is necessary, the North Carolina State University
80 Student Senate asserts that it shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00)
81 for undergraduate residents and two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for undergraduate
82 nonresidents, graduate residents, and graduate nonresidents during the 2009-2010
83 academic year; and be it further,

84

85 **RESOLVED**, That fifty percent (50%) of any tuition increase be allocated to need-based
86 financial aid, eleven and two tenths percent (11.2%) be allocated to the Graduate
87 Student Support Program, and thirty-nine and eight tenths (39.8%) of the tuition
88 increase be allocated to critical needs for quality and accessibility; and be it
89 further,

90

91 **RESOLVED**, That this recommendation and others similar from constituent UNC institutions be
92 given significant consideration in the tuition review process.