

1 ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ASU
2 GPSA ASSEMBLY
3 EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

4
5 OCTOBER 15, 2010
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7 ASSEMBLY BILL # 13

8
9 INTRODUCED BY

10
11 ED HERMES
12 ASSEMBLY MEMBER, COLLEGE OF LAW

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15 A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SAVING FIRST THINGS FIRST
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18 WHEREAS GPSA represents all graduate students at Arizona State University,

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20 WHEREAS Arizona Proposition 302 is the ballot measure that seeks to repeal the First
21 Things First program, and take voter-approved tobacco tax dollars away from healthcare
22 and education programs for children to put into the state general fund.

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24 NOTING that in 2006 Arizona voters approved First Things First to be funded by a
25 special tax on tobacco products. This revenue, directed by law into the Early Childhood
26 Development and Health Fund, was mandated by voters to “increase the quality of and
27 access to early childhood development and health services for children up to five years of
28 age.”

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30 NOTING that First Things First has helped more than 330,000 Arizona children from
31 birth to age 5 and delivered tens of millions of dollars to communities across the state.
32 The money is used to fund critical programs that create healthier and safer learning
33 environments, provide detailed parenting tools and resources to teach parents of
34 newborns, and ensure families have access to specialized healthcare.

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36 FURTHER NOTING that First Things First provides assistantships for graduate students
37 through a statewide research project that also employs graduate student-hourly staff at
38 Arizona State University, Northern Arizona State University, and University of Arizona.

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40 BE IT RESOLVED that given the importance of early childhood care and education, and
41 the need to support education on all levels, the GPSA officially supports the Saving First
42 Things First campaign.

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44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that GPSA should join in other education leaders with
45 the No on 302 campaign and work to inform graduate students of the ramifications of this
46 proposition and offer opportunities to get involved.