

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

4
5 OCTOBER 15, 2010
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7 ASSEMBLY BILL # 14

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9 INTRODUCED BY

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11 HANNAH REITZEL RIVERA
12 ASSEMBLY MEMBER, CLAS – SOCIAL SCIENCES

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14 A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ARIZONA PROPOSITION 107

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17 GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION,

18 WHEREAS the GPSA represents all graduate students at Arizona State University,

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20 WHEREAS Arizona Proposition 107 is the proposed State Constitutional amendment (to
21 appear on the November 2, 2010 ballot) which will ban programs that give preferential
22 treatment to or discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, sex,
23 color, ethnicity or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education
24 or public contracting, while exempting certain programs required by Federal law,
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28 NOTING that Arizona State University is already compelled by its receipt of federal
29 funds to abide by Title IX: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be
30 excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to
31 discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial
32 assistance...” (United States Code Section 20)
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34 FURTHER NOTING that Arizona State University’s official Title IX statement *already*
35 reads, “Arizona State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color,
36 national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, religion, age or veteran
37 status in the University's services, educational programs, and activities, including, but not
38 limited to, admission to and employment by the University,”
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40 FURTHER NOTING that underrepresented groups currently account for almost 75% of
41 the population in Arizona but only 19% of the graduate student population and 27% of
42 the total student population of ASU as of Fall 2009,
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44 FURTHER NOTING that if federal funding for diversity-based programs were to
45 disappear, Arizona State University would face budget cuts to or the total loss of the
46 African and African American Studies Programs; American Indian Studies Program;

47 Asian Pacific American Studies Program; Department of Transborder Chicana/o and
48 Latina/o Studies; Ethnicity, Race and First Nations Studies Program; Indian Legal
49 Program; Justice and Social Inquiry Program; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
50 Studies Program; the Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies;
51 the Native Teacher Professional Development Program; the School of Community
52 Resources and Development; and the Women and Gender Studies Program, among
53 others,

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55 FURTHER NOTING that passage of this bill could eliminate funding for ASU outreach
56 programs such as Women in Science and Engineering (WISE), which supports women in
57 the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields; Mathematics,
58 Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA), a free after-school program for
59 underrepresented 7th-12th graders to encourage participation and coursework in the STEM
60 fields; the Bridges to Biomedical Careers course, which recruits minority community
61 college students for participation in ASU research projects; and the SHADES mentoring
62 program, which provides graduate students with professional development opportunities
63 as they mentor underrepresented undergraduates and new graduate students; as well as
64 numerous other programs that prepare minority students for higher education and allow
65 current minority students opportunities for advancement and professional development,

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67 BE IT RESOLVED that given the effects this Proposition will have on education in the
68 state of Arizona, the GPSA officially opposes Arizona Proposition 107.

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70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that GPSA should join other education leaders with
71 support for a “No on 107” campaign and work to inform graduate students of the
72 ramifications of this proposition and offer opportunities to get involved.