

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE ASSEMBLY
ELEVENTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2013

ASSEMBLY BILL #15

INTRODUCED BY:

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A RESOLUTION of support for immigration reform

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION,

WHEREAS GPSA represents all ASU graduate and professional students, including international and undocumented students;

WHEREAS international students comprise more than 20% of the ASU graduate student body;

WHEREAS the GPSA's advocacy agenda has included the DREAM Act and immigration-related initiatives for the past three years;

WHEREAS ASU President Michael Crow is a public supporter of immigration reform and a leader in higher education regarding immigration reform;

WHEREAS ASU's Council of Presidents, comprised of the five elected student government presidents who collectively represent all ASU students and campuses, has taken a stance in support of immigration reform effective July 2013;

NOTING THAT international students are likely to benefit from immigration reform if it:

a. EXPANDS the number of visas offered to international students with advanced degrees to seek employment in the U.S.,

b. IMPROVES the efficiency of any processes by which international students receive any required legal statuses for education and employment in the U.S.,

c. ALLOWS speedy petitioning by legal permanent residents to extend the benefits of their status to spouses and children,

45 d. PROVIDES legal resident status to DREAMers (undocumented students) and offers
46 them a path to citizenship not prioritized over presently existing paths to citizenship now
47 pursued by millions of persons;

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49 FURTHER NOTING the following economic benefits, observed and projected, to
50 Arizona and the U.S.:

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52 a. From 2006 to 2010, immigrants founded 31.6% of new businesses in AZ, and these
53 businesses annually earned approximately \$2.2 billion (Partnership for a New American
54 Economy, 2012),

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56 b. If comprehensive immigration reform succeeds, inflation-adjusted U.S. GDP will be
57 3.3% greater over the next 10 years and 5.4% greater over the next 20 years than it is
58 projected to be under current immigration laws (Congressional Budget Office, 2013);

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60 FURTHER NOTING THAT immigration reform will increase enforcement and border
61 security to make it tougher for undocumented immigration to continue;

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63 FINALLY NOTING THAT an increase in the number of visas offered to international
64 students to obtain degrees in the U.S. will benefit ASU and other universities by
65 expanding the competitive pool from which students are selected;

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67 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the GPSA will continue to support immigration
68 reform and advocate for its bipartisan passage.