

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ASU
GPSA ASSEMBLY
EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MARCH 11, 2011

ASSEMBLY BILL #44

INTRODUCED BY
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ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, CLAS – SOCIAL SCIENCES AND MLFTC

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF ARIZONA HOUSE BILL 2565
(SUBSECTIONS 15-1862 and 1863)

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION,

WHEREAS the GPSA represents all graduate students at Arizona State University and exists to advocate on behalf of those students,

WHEREAS HB 2565 Subsection 15-1862, as of March 11, 2011, allows students in counseling, social work, or psychology programs to decide against treating or counseling a patient based on the former's "sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction," even if said is against the professional ethics standards of that field,

WHEREAS HB 2565 Subsection 1863 allows student organizations to discriminate against individuals for membership based upon religious, political, philosophical, or moral viewpoints, expression, or beliefs and prevents the University from creating policies that would differentiate between such organizations and student organizations that are open to all students, and

NOTING that the Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S) § 41-1493.01 already asserts that free exercise of religion is a fundamental right that applies even if laws, rules, or other government actions are superficially neutral,

FURTHER NOTING that Arizona State University and the GPSA have worked to foster an environment of inclusion and acceptance that is in direct conflict with HB 2565 Subsections 15-1862 and 15-1863, and

FURTHER NOTING that HB 2565 Subsections 15-1862 and 15-1863 are counterintuitive to Board of Regents' policy as well as University rules and regulations and are difficult to interpret and thus enforce and adjudicate,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona State University Graduate and Professional Student Association oppose Arizona House Bill 2565, Subsection 15-1862 and Subsection 15-1863.