

AASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ASU
GPSA ASSEMBLY
EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MARCH 11, 2011

ASSEMBLY BILL #45

INTRODUCED BY
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A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF ARIZONA SENATE BILL 1115 (SB1115)
AND SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1014 (SCR1014)

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 SB1115, along with companion bill SCR1014, abolishes the Arizona Board of Regents, sets up separate governing boards for each university, enacts a vaguely-worded and ill-defined voucher payment system for Arizona public universities, and does not include provision for the inclusion of a student voice in university governance,

NOTING that the Arizona State Constitution guarantees that public university education be «as nearly free as possible» and that the unclear voucher system proposed by these bills provides no such guarantee,

FURTHER NOTING that the strike-everything amendment to SB1115 has removed language calling for salary increases based on cost of living to be appropriated from university-allocated funds, and that these increases applied to graduate student employees of the university,

FURTHER NOTING that the Student Regent position, which has existed to advocate on behalf of university students and bring the student voice to state-level university governance since 1978, and which has been a voting member of the Arizona Board of Regents since 1989, would be abolished by these bills, effectively silencing the student voice at the highest level of university governance,

FURTHER NOTING that SB1115 and SCR1014 outline no provision for any form of student voice in the proposed individual governing board system,

REAFFIRMING that the GPSA exists to advocate on behalf of graduate students, and noting that SB1115 and SCR1014 are in direct conflict with this mission,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona State University Graduate and Professional Student Association oppose Arizona Senate Bill 1115 and its companion Arizona Senate Concurrent Resolution 1014.