A Proclamation Regarding Dining Services Raising the Wages of its Student Employees

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Sponsored by: Senator Allison Fine, Access and Opportunity

WHEREAS, the University of Georgia offers hundreds of employment opportunities across multiple disciplines including food services, housing, research, academic offices, and more; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents limits student employees to twenty hours per week to “be exempt from normal 'non-benefits-eligible' employee deductions;” and,

WHEREAS, most on-campus jobs pay minimum wage. Georgia’s minimum wage is $7.25 per hour. This means, before taxes, a student could make $145 in a week and $290 per two-week pay period. For many students, this is not enough to pay for rent, groceries, electricity bills, and other expenses such as gas; and,

WHEREAS, Many students depend on the compensation and flexible hours associated with on-campus employment opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, Dining Services conducted a study pertaining to compensation offered by Dining Services within other schools within the University System of Georgia and concluded that their average hourly salary was $8.50; and,

WHEREAS, University of Georgia Dining Services announced an increase in hourly wages for student workers from $7.90 per hour to $9.00 per hour and University of Georgia Transportation and Parking Services experienced a base wage increase from $8.00 per hour to $9.00 per hour; and,

WHEREAS, Similar to other campus departments and services, Dining Services made this decision in part to attract student workers according to Dining Services Executive Director, Bryan Varin; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, the 31st administration of the Student Government Association, on behalf of the student body, proclaims that the student body thanks Dining Services and Transportation and Parking Services for listening to student feedback and following the example of other schools within the University System of Georgia to reward hard-working student employees with a pay increase; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY PROCLAIMED, recommends all University divisions including but not limited to University Housing, Auxiliary Services, Student Affairs, University Libraries, Facilities Management, and individual Academic Departments conduct studies to assess student pay and look for ways to further reward and compensate student workers to show appreciation for their dedication to the university and their hard work.