



Resolution No. 1516-05

A Resolution Regarding the Coalition of Graduate Workers (CGW) Union Campaign and Encouraging Graduate Student Worker Engagement

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

WHEREAS, In response to the announcement of the loss of the graduate student health insurance subsidy in mid-August, along with the continuous loss of other benefits, a group of graduate student employees at the University of Missouri are working to hold an election to unionize as the Coalition of Graduate Workers (CGW) affiliated with the Missouri National Education Association (MNEA) and National Education Association (NEA); and

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article 29 of the Missouri Constitution states, “Organized Labor and Collective Bargaining: That employees shall have the right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.”; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned right is extended to all students regardless of national origin or citizenship status, and cannot be legally violated or infringed upon through intimidation or coercion; and

WHEREAS, a union election will require a process of education and discussion, as well as the engagement of all graduate workers; and

WHEREAS, for such an election to be held, it must be authorized by graduate student workers themselves in an authorization card signature drive; be it

RESOLVED, that the Graduate Professional Council encourages all graduate student workers to participate in the union election process by attending informational events, contacting representatives from the Coalition of Graduate Workers, and otherwise educating themselves about educational labor organization in the State of Missouri, so as to make an informed decision on whether or not to sign authorization cards calling for a union election; and be it,

RESOLVED, That the Graduate Professional Council calls upon the University of Missouri administration to uphold the constitutional right of graduate student employees to organize, that they act without delay in recognizing the independent verification of authorization cards from graduate student employees and the holding of the union election process.

RESOLVED, That the Graduate Professional Council will use its social media and email outlets to communicate educational material about the union election process to graduate and professional students.

SUBMITTED,

Kristofferson Culmer

General Assembly Representative from Computer Science