R010-0001

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING
THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

WHEREAS: Education is an important factor in allowing people to become more productive, well-rounded citizens; and,

WHEREAS: A provision of the Higher Education Act mandates that students convicted of any drug-related offense be denied eligibility for financial aid for periods ranging from one year to indefinite; and,

WHEREAS: The provision impacts primarily students of low to moderate economic means; and,

WHEREAS: The provision will have a discriminatory impact on people of color, as their communities are disproportionately targeted for enforcement of drug laws; and,

WHEREAS: No other class of offender faces similar restrictions on student loan eligibility.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature calls upon the 107th Congress to pass legislation, which will repeal Section 484, Subsection (r) or the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091 (r)).

MANDATES: President William Jefferson Clinton
Speaker of the House Dennis J. Hastert
Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott
U.S. Rep. Wm. Goodling, Chair, Committee on Education & Workforce
U.S. Rep. Barney Frank
U.S. Rep. Roscoe Bartlett
U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski
U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes
Executive Director David Borden, Drug Reform Coordination Network

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