



**Resolution in Support of Opportunity Minnesota S.F. Bill No. 997**

**Whereas**, in Minnesota the rising cost of attaining a higher education degree is more burdensome now than ever for prospective students, and further prevents low-income youth from obtaining a bachelor's degree; and

**Whereas**, Minnesota now has the 4th highest average higher education debt in the country at \$29,058, according to an annual report by the Project on Student Debt; and

**Whereas**, alleviating student debt will eliminate a major financial constraint on college graduates and their families in order to promote economic mobility; and

**Whereas**, opportunity Minnesota relieves student loan debt for higher education graduates in Minnesota who continue to work in the state following graduation. It is designed to relieve student debt and remove the cost barrier that prevents many Minnesotans from attending college. Additionally, it encourages more students to go to college and complete their degree in four years, and to stay in Minnesota; and

**Whereas**, the bill recommends a fully refundable tax credit so new college students can pursue a higher education; the addition of just one more bachelor's degree-earner drives economic multipliers valued at \$847,133 in social benefits and \$123,865 in fiscal benefits to the state over the lifetime of the individual; and

**Therefore**, be it resolved that we, the Augsburg Day Student Government supports S.F. Bill No. 997: as informed citizens Augsburg asks students to become educated about the issues in our community and take action on these issue and are called to ensure the financial stability of our student for generations to come.

Patrick DuSchane  
Augsburg Day Student Government President

Ibrahim Al-Hajiby  
Augsburg Day Student Government VP

Special thanks to,  
MPIRG