

**A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED ACT TO:**

**Urges the North Carolina elected officials to move swiftly to enact House Bill 966 and Senate Bill 354 as well as adopting a FY 19-21 budget to allow Western Carolina University to continue to serve their students**

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**Short Title:** Urges the adoption of FY 19-21 Budget

**Authored by:** Dawson Spencer, WCU SGA Vice President

----- *Below for Senate Leadership* -----

**Resolution Number:** S20-03

**First Reading:** Jan 27, 2020 **Second Reading:** Feb 3, 2020

**Referred to:** Academic Committee

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1 **WHEREAS**, Western Carolina University (“WCU”), a constituent institution of the University  
2 of North Carolina, is dependent upon funding from the state of North Carolina; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina does not have an enacted budget for the FY 19-21  
4 biennium; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the WCU is experiencing record enrollment, has approximately 10,000 North  
6 Carolina county enrollment, and serves more than 12,000 students in total; and

7 **WHEREAS**, House Bill 966 also provides critical funding for the NC Promise Tuition Buy-  
8 Down Program, which reduces the cost of tuition to \$500 per semester tuition that current and  
9 future WCU students rely on heavily; and

10 **WHEREAS**, we continue to operate under last year’s funding level, our dramatic enrollment  
11 growth means we are serving a larger number of students without any additional resources; and  
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the current proposed budget, House Bill 966, includes funding for several urgent  
14 projects, including the second installment of funding to replace the century-old steam plant for  
15 Western Carolina University, increasing the risk of plant failure; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the absence of an enacted state budget for FY 19-21 will require that WCU slow the  
17 rate of enrollment growth, which will hurt students, including rural and low-income students  
18 from Western North Carolina, and will impact growth for the next several years; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the absence of an enacted state budget for FY 19-21 significantly hurts WCU,  
20 faculty, students and the communities we serve, and threatens the ability of WCU to enhance the  
21 economic vitality of Western North Carolina; and



**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION of WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY**

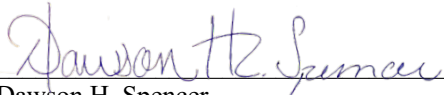

**96<sup>th</sup> SESSION, Fall 2019-Spring 2020**

22 **WHEREAS**, the absence of an enacted state budget for FY 19-21 hurts UNC System institutions,  
23 faculty, students, and the communities we serve, and threatens the ability of the University to  
24 serve the citizens of the State and contribute to the economic vitality of North Carolina; and

25 **WHEREAS**, both the University of North Carolina Board of Governors and the Western  
26 Carolina University's Board of Trustees passed resolutions earlier this month unanimously to  
27 urge the elected officials to move swiftly to enact said House and Senate bills; now, therefore, be  
28 it

29 **RESOLVED**, the Student Government Association of Western Carolina University strongly and  
30 urgently encourages all elected leaders who support and value the world-class higher educational  
31 systems in North Carolina to move swiftly to enact House Bill 966 and approve with the  
32 provisions originally included in Senate Bill 354

Senate Vote: Aye: 29 Nay: 0

 Dawson H. Spencer SGA Vice-President	<u>February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020</u> Date	Passed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Failed: <input type="checkbox"/>
 David Rhode SGA President	<u>02/03/2020</u> Date	Passed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veto: <input type="checkbox"/>

