UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: UB-55017 Date introduced: October 17th, 2018 Author(s): President Barrett Sponsor(s): Pro-Temp. Lorine, Chair Mehra, Chair Ajrami, Vice-Chair Akhtar, Vice-Chair Veeramachaneni, Sen. Chang, Sen. Adkison, Sen. Vicklund, Sen. Joslin, Sen. Pen, Sen. Seernani, Sen. Gomez, Sen. Marvel, Sen. Berger, Sen. Jeffrey, Sen. Caceres, Sen. Lamonte, Sen. Upama, Sen. Pham Committee: Administration and Finance Draft: Final

The Homeless Student Relief Act

Whereas, nearly 70% of University of Houston students apply for need-based aid¹;

Whereas, less than 13% of University of Houston students have their need fully met¹;

Whereas, 58% of University of Houston students receive some sort of need-based aid¹;

Whereas, eighty-one (81) students who filled out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2018-2019 school year were certified as homeless;

Whereas, thirty-nine (39) of these homeless students were from the incoming Freshman class of 2022;

Whereas, the Cougar Experience Scholarship is a scholarship to extend housing to students at the University of Houston.

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

That Auxiliary Services will offer meal plans to each homeless student at a 70% reduction in price, each Fall semester, which will feed each student for the academic year;

Be it further enacted, these meal plan awards will not exceed fifty (50) students annually;

Be it further enacted, the Financial Aid department will identify the number of homeless students based on the FAFSA fillings each fall semester, communicate this list with Auxiliary Services, who will make the offer to the eligible students, whose aid does not exceed their cost of attendance;

Be it further enacted, homeless students without a mandatory meal plan will be prioritized for this award;

Be it further enacted, the University of Houston will allow homeless students to be exempted from the on-campus meal plan requirement;

Be it further enacted, homeless students will have a priority designation for the Cougar Experience Scholarship;

Be it further enacted, that the Auxiliary Services Department will seek final and permanent approval for this program for Fall 2019, from the Board of Regents.

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Cameron Barrett Student Government President Date of President's Approval: <u>VO(3)(1)(</u>



Andrew Trinh

Speaker of Senate Date of Senate Approval: 10/31/18

¹https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-houston-3652/paying