Resolution 17-04:
A Resolution to recommend 132nd General Assembly of State of Ohio to amend House Bill 49 - Section 381.150

WHEREAS, House Bill 49 serves as the executive budget for the State of Ohio for financial year 2018-19; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget bill increases the total state share of instruction (SSI) by 1% per year; and

WHEREAS, Section 381.150 of H.B. 49 relates to a portion of the higher education budget; and

WHEREAS, Section 381.150 (A) prohibits state institutions of higher education from increasing in-state undergraduate instructional, general, and all other fees; and

WHEREAS, Section 381.150 (B) of H.B. 49 mandates the boards of trustees of state institutions of higher education to provide students with any and all instructional tools as defined in section 381.150 (D). For this purpose, the H.B 49 creates a provision for universities to charge students up to $300 annually (full-time) and pro-rate part-time student; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 49 requires that all textbook costs exceeding the maximum student textbook fee as set forth under sec. 381.150 shall come out of the university's operational budget; and therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association here assembled at Wright State University makes the following recommendations:

A. We recommend the 132nd General Assembly of the State of Ohio remove section 381.150 (B) and (D) of H.B. 49 for the following reasons:

1. The total cost of the course material varies by number of enrolled credit hours, and the student's field of study. Therefore, applying a general fee of $300/year to all full-time students may increase the financial burden for students who comparatively would spend less.

2. Transferring the responsibility to provide textbooks for students to the university limits the student's ability to explore free market choices such as buying, renting, and sharing.

3. Adding the financial burden to the operational budget of the university without a significant increase in State Share of Instruction will adversely impact the out of classroom experience for students as the university will be forced to reallocate the budget to accommodate the new mandate.

B. Wright State University Student Senate adjoins the President of the Wright State University Student Government to work with Faculty Senate to create a University
Textbook Committee with a mission to reduce the growing cost of course materials.

C. Wright State University Student Government Association urges the Wright State University faculty to consider less-expensive course materials without compromising the quality of instruction.

Sponsored by Lakshmi Nathan Balasubramanian
Co-Sponsored by Matthew Almazan

Motioned: Dexter Nye  Second: Matthew Almazan

Ayes: 9  Nays: 0  Abstentions: 0

Lukas Wenrick, President  2-21-17