

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION**



**BILL NO. 57-84**

**INTRODUCED BY: SALEH**

**SECONDED BY: ITURRALDE**

**A BILL TO: Release a letter addressing the concerns from students in regards to the lack of support given in remote learning courses during the COVID-19 pandemic**

**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:**

**WHEREAS**, The preamble of the Associated Students of Michigan State University Constitution states that ASMSU is responsible to “address the unique needs and concerns of the student community” and “collectively strive to better ourselves and the undergraduate experience for Michigan State students;”<sup>1</sup> and,

**WHEREAS**, Undergraduate students have expressed their concerns of increasing workloads that is a result of the changing modality of instruction to remote learning; and,

**WHEREAS**, The pandemic has created a multitude of situations that have shifted the responsibilities and priorities of students which could influence their drive and success in their academic life; and,

**WHEREAS**, In Fall 2020 the Broad Student Senate released data detailing the current plight of students regarding mental health and transition to online learning;<sup>2</sup> therefore be it further,

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall publicly release the letter contained in Appendix I; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall present the letter to Faculty Senate and all other relevant entities; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall present the letter to institutions in the Association of Big Ten Students to formulate a joint letter; and,

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<sup>1</sup> [ASMSU Manuel \(Revised February 2020\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1\\_II\\_PV5ZnQaMQQaU7rjlojX1L6xKlirR/edit#slide=id.p22](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_II_PV5ZnQaMQQaU7rjlojX1L6xKlirR/edit#slide=id.p22)

**INTRODUCED ON** February 25, 2021

**REFERRED TO** Academic **COMMITTEE ON** February 25, 2021

**SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN** Introduced on Floor **DATE** February 25, 2021

**COMMITTEE ACTION** X 10-0-0 February 25, 2021  
**PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE**

**FINAL ACTION TAKEN** X Voice Majority March 4 2021  
**PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE**

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**PRESIDENT : Abii-Tah Chungong Bih**

**VPIA: Nora Teagan**

#### **APPENDIX I:**

Associated Students of Michigan State University

DATE: February 24, 2021

TO: College Deans, Michigan State University

FROM: 57th Session General Assembly, Associated Students of Michigan State University

SUBJECT: Addressing student concerns regarding instruction and assignments

Dear Dean [NAME], [COLLEGE NAME],

On March 11, 2021, Michigan State University will complete a full year of online instruction. This has been a dramatic change to both students and faculty. While many faculty members have been accommodating surrounding the shift of instruction and assignments, others have been less cooperative. Many students are under the impression that more assignments and assessments are being administered this academic year than in previous years. Additionally, students feel a lack of support and flexibility from faculty regarding unique, individual circumstances. This has not only negatively impacted student's academic performance but also impacted mental and physical health.

Recently, the Broad Student Senate completed a survey from members of the Broad College of Business. This survey covered a range of topics including mental health. 50% of respondents said they are struggling or unwell regarding their mental health. Compared to a World Health Organization survey of 14,000 students where 35% of respondents reported they are struggling

or unwell regarding mental health. This 15% increase is concerning. Furthermore, 79% of Broad College of Business respondents reported their academic performance has been impacted due to their mental health. Paired with other responsibilities, work, internships, and cocurricular activities, students are experiencing excessive and constant burnout.

In response to concerns, we are asking you to take the following measures to protect the mental health of students:

- Foster a safe and healthy classroom environment that allows students to feel supported and to seek help and resources if needed
- Reexamine the workload students are being assigned and the credit hours being obtained
- Promote the importance of mental health by allowing students to take mental health days to destress and recollect

We must address the concerns of students to create a campus that prioritizes both academic success and mental health.

In Green and White,  
57th Session General Assembly, Associated Students of Michigan State University