Resolved, That Faculty Senate endorsed ASMSU Bill 57-84, titled “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.” Letter is stated as:

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