Bill #69-31
The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)
The Pennsylvania State University

of the 69th Assembly
April 15, 2020

Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,

Grocery Assistance for Graduate and Professional Students Affected by COVID-19
Provide grocery funding
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

Nature of the Situation:

The precautions taken by Penn State in response to COVID-19, commonly known as the novel coronavirus, are necessary for public health on our campuses and in our communities. However, many graduate and professional students have returned to or remained on campus for family, research, and assistantship responsibilities. In Bill #69-26, GPSA funded $5,000 for grocery assistance through eGift-cards for Instacart, a grocery delivery company. The funding for the initial bill was distributed in less than 3 hours, showing that the demand outweighed the initial supply and there are still more graduate and professional students that could be helped.

Recommended Course of Action:

The Graduate and Professional Student Association authorizes the Executive Board to organize and sponsor additional grocery services, to continue to relieve financial stress for graduate and professional students during the pandemic. To avoid flooding Instacart’s capacity in the State College area, we will instead look to purchase gift cards/groceries directly from stores for the constituents that sign-up for this program. This will be marketed through our social media and newsletter. Since this is a continuation of the previous grocery funding, priority will be given to
those who did not receive eGift-cards previously. Gift cards can be requested for a maximum of $25. This program will last until the funding is used in its entirety.

**Total for all gift cards or direct grocery purchase: $4,000**

**Total for postage and envelopes: $150**

**Total: $4,150**

Respectfully submitted,

**Alexander Wilson-Heid**  
Chair of the Graduate Council Student Caucus, GPSA

President ___________________________________________________  Affirm  Veto

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The Graduate and Professional Student Association