A Resolution Approving the Budget Proposed for the 2016 Fiscal Year by the Departments of Residential Facilities and Resident Life

WHEREAS the Residence Hall Association (RHA) has jurisdiction over all on-campus issues, including those pertaining to the Departments of Resident Life and Residential Facilities, and

WHEREAS the RHA has priority influence in regards to issues within the University of Maryland, College Park Department of Resident Life (DRL) through the Resident Life Advisory Team (ReLATe) and the Department of Residential Facilities through the Residential Facilities Advisory Board (ReFAB), and

WHEREAS ReLATe and ReFAB are devoted to exploring issues relating to resident students, including fees associated with residing on campus, and

WHEREAS ReLATe and ReFAB must submit recommendations to the RHA Senate regarding student fees proposed by the Departments of Residential Facilities and Resident Life for approval and adoption, and

WHEREAS the RHA passed resolution SEG001 in support of a Differentiated Rates system for room fees, and

WHEREAS DRL plans to implement this rates system Fall 2015 for the subsequent academic school years, and

WHEREAS DRL and the Department of Residential Facilities are proposing a 3.95% increase in room fees for every student living in an air-conditioned traditional residence hall amounting to a $254 increase for those students, and

WHEREAS other individual rate increases are contingent upon the room-pricing categories based on the Differentiated Rates plan, and

WHEREAS the student fee increases proposed by DRL and the Department of Residential Facilities will cover mandates by the State and University, reflect the market reality for the price of utilities, take into account net increases in employee fringe benefits and insurance, compensate for the residence hall closures aligned with the Strategic Housing Plan, and provide funds for the aforementioned plan, and
WHEREAS the Directors of DRL and the Department of Residential Facilities, Deborah Grandner and Jon Dooley, respectively, presented a budget outline to the RHA Senate and later met with Senators in a joint committee meeting, and

WHEREAS the proposed budget has been updated since that time amounting to a net decrease of $323,674, from $1,460,434 to $1,136,760, and

WHEREAS ReLATE and ReFAB have both voted unanimously in support of passing the proposed budget as well as this resolution by the RHA Senate,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the RHA Senate vote, as per the recommendations of ReLATE and ReFAB, in support of the budget proposed by DRL and the Department of Residential Facilities.

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Residence Life Advisory Team and Residential Facilities Advisory Board

Residence Hall Association