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Student Government Association Senate Legislation

Student Government Association

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Sense of the Senate: Boston City Council's Petition to Limit Number of Students in Private Residences

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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SS-SP-08-102

A SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING BOSTON CITY COUNCIL'S PETITION TO THE ZONING COMISSION TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN PRIVATE RESIDENCES

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council approved a petition on December 12, 2007, for the Boston Zoning Commission to adopt a new zoning code that restricts the number of students allowed to reside in a private residence to four; **AND**

WHEREAS, The Boston Zoning Commission is soliciting input from the community and has a hearing scheduled at 9:00 AM on March 12, 2008, before their vote scheduled for the same day; **AND**

WHEREAS, Northeastern University Student Government Association representatives have petitioned the Boston City Council to revise the legislation to reflect student concerns, only to have suggestions overlooked; **AND**

WHEREAS, Over 7000 Northeastern students currently reside off-campus in the Greater Boston area, hundreds of which live in residences with ample living space to support five or more tenants; **AND**

WHEREAS, Housing is not guaranteed for students at Northeastern University past their third year; **AND**

WHEREAS, Inadequate data as to the likely results of such legislation has been presented; **AND**

WHEREAS, There is insufficient data to indicate that such legislation would in fact result in a lowering of housing costs; **AND**

WHEREAS, The proposed zoning petition would potentially inflict undue cost and unnecessary aggravation on members of not only the Northeastern community, but the greater Boston student community as well; **THEREFORE**

IT IS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE

That the proposed zoning code unfairly targets students; **AND**

That students will be displaced as a result of the artificial limit placed on the capacity of the rental market near campus, pushing them further into the community and away from the Northeastern campus; **AND**

That this proposed legislation will negatively impact both current and future Northeastern students, as well as community members, property owners, and the City of Boston at large; **AND**

That the Northeastern student body is vigorously opposed to this proposed revision to the zoning code.

_____
Michael Rockland
Senator, College Republicans

_____
Mitchell H. K. Allen
Senator, College of Arts and Sciences

Approve: _____
Joseph J. Fiore
President

Attest: _____
Ashley R. Benjamin
Vice President for Administration
and Public Relations

Yea:_____ Nay: _____ Abs: _____