AR-2019-01: A Proclamation Denouncing the Policy for Replacing Mountaineer IDs

A Statement from the Student Assembly Urging the University to Review, Rethink, and Amend the Policies Regarding the Replacement of Student IDs

WHERE AS, The West Virginia University Student Government Association’s (SGA’S) vision in-part is “creating a campus that can accommodate everyone”

WHERE AS, In accordance to that vision, the Student Government Association must protect and advocate for the student’s ability to function properly at the school, in and out of class

WHERE AS, The students of West Virginia University are required by the school to have their mountaineer ID’s on hand and present in order to use the school facilities, resources, and even test; factors both in and out of class

WHERE AS, If students were to be present at said facilities, resources, and tests without their mountaineer ID, even in cases of theft or damage, the student would not be able to either utilize the University resource or take the test at hand. 1.

WHERE AS, It is found that the student would be negatively affected not only in their personal life, but in their academic life as their performance at the University could be hindered by the untimely replacement of their ID.

WHERE AS, In this interest, it is the duty of the SGA to advocate for the student when they are faced with a limiting factor by West Virginia University (WVU) as the organization strives to accommodate each and every student.

WHERE AS, A limiting factor in this situation is that the replacements issued by the University for IDs, under the current replacement policy, are at the cost of the student in all circumstances, except for wear and tear from five years or if the initial ID was faulty.

WHERE AS, The cost of the replacement is $30, an amount seemingly reasonable, but an amount with the ability to take a financial toll on the student. And an amount that is not proportional to the estimated cost of producing such cards; as a prominent online ID distributor estimated that to produce IDs for a school population of our size (30,000) is around 46 cents per ID. 2.

WHERE AS, Using a respected financial cost estimator for college students, the yearly expense for a student to attend WVU in-state is $22,472 and $37,712 out-of-state. In this estimate for both in and out of state students the yearly personal expenditure is $2,000-3,000. 3.

WHERE AS, An academic year at the University is 36-weeks, it can be inferred through the yearly expenditure statistic provided by the college calculator site, that the student will only be able to spend up to $55-73 a week.

WHERE AS, If a student is only personally able to finance this amount weekly then the replacement of an ID could pose as a barrier to performing in school as the cost to replace it would be 41-55% of a student’s weekly budget.

WHERE AS, This toll on a weekly budget could either inhibit students from properly being able to upkeep their lifestyle or could even pose as a reason to delay the student from being able to come forth and buy another ID, an ID that is essential in almost all aspects of the school. 1.

Therefore, be it Resolved That,
In order for the campus to be accommodating to all students, the West Virginia University Student Government Association wishes for the price of the ID to reflect not only the cost of production but the financial toll it poses on the student.

Be it Further Resolved That,
That this price should be set at a feasible rate that is 10-20% of the average students’ weekly spending amount, which is $5-15.