



<b>Resolution Number:</b>		<b>Sponsored By:</b>	Senator Andy Bui and the Diversity Affairs Committee
<b>Introduced On:</b>	<b>January 28, 2015</b>		
<b>Voted On:</b>			
<b>Result:</b>			
<b>Vote Count:</b>			

**A RESOLUTION TO:** Declare student support for the inclusion of the needs of transgender individuals in the student health insurance plan, which include, but are not limited to, gender confirmation surgery and hormone replacement therapy.

**Recognizing**, that the university's LGBTQ+ community seeks for the inclusion of the needs of transgender individuals in the university's student health insurance policy;<sup>4</sup>

**Recognizing**, that to be transgender means to identify with any gender other than the one an individual was assigned at birth;

**Whereas**, that the number of reported trans-identifying students at Grand Valley is comparable to that of many universities in which trans-inclusive healthcare is provided to students;<sup>1</sup>

**Recognizing**, that trans-inclusive healthcare policies for faculty, staff, and students were recommended by the Gender Identity and Expression Committee in 2013, of which only faculty and staff currently have trans-inclusive health coverage;<sup>2</sup>

**Recognizing**, that within a group of employers studied that implemented trans-inclusive healthcare for employees, 85% reported no premium increases in the first year, with any costs reported being extremely low;<sup>3</sup>

**Whereas**, that trans-inclusive healthcare may serve as both a recruitment and retention tool for students identifying with the LGBTQ+ community;

**Recognizing**, that trans-inclusive healthcare may reduce costs due to benefits for mental health of transgender individuals;

**Realizing**, that the inclusion of the needs of transgender individuals in university healthcare policy would require the provider of student health insurance to enact change in policy;

**Whereas**, although the university is not the direct provider of student health insurance, the inclusion of the needs transgender individuals in student health insurance policy would be in line with the university's vision of inclusion and equity;

**Let It Be Resolved**, the Grand Valley State University Student Senate stands in support of the implementation of the needs of transgender individuals in the student health insurance plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Campus climate surveys of various universities including the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, University of California-Berkeley, and Emory University.

<sup>2</sup> Gender Identity Expression Committee final report and recommendations (At GVSU).

<sup>3</sup> Cost and Benefits of Providing Transition-Related Health Care Coverage in Employee Health Benefits Plans.

<sup>4</sup> Brochure of Coverage, Grand Valley State University Student Health Insurance Plan