Title: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SHIP (STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE) PLUS PLAN

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Resolution Number: 14.08-09

WHEREAS a significant reduction in the number of teaching assistants (TAs) and research assistants (RA’s) are expected for the 2009-10 academic year; and

WHEREAS students who lose their TA and RA positions will lose their graduate appointee health insurance as well; and

WHEREAS last year student life conducted a campus-wide survey in which they assessed the current student health insurance options; and

WHEREAS the survey results indicated a need for a second health care option with increased health care benefits and coverage; and

WHEREAS many students do not have insurance and are uneducated to the benefits of insurance and consequences of remaining uninsured given the high cost of medical care; and

WHEREAS GPSS representatives have been working with the Office of Student Life to develop a two-tier health insurance plan to address this stated need of the student body; and

WHEREAS the Office of Student Life has created an improved student insurance plan called Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) Plus which includes the additional coverage requested in the survey, which would be available as an opt-in plan; and

WHEREAS a certain degree of student participation is necessary to make this two-tiered system sustainable and successful; and

WHEREAS the ability to opt-into SHIP Plus will be available to students upon registration for the 2009-10 academic year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate of the University of Washington strongly endorses these increased options available to students; and

THAT GPSS will help to promote this plan and advertise it to the student body; and
THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to President Mark Emmert, Vice Provost of Student Life Eric Godfrey, ASUW President Anttimi Bennett, and the ASUW Board of Directors.

Presented to GPSS for approval on April 23, 2009
Approved on April 29, 2009