## **URGENT December Call to Action- Tax Cut & Jobs Act!**

## December 6th, 2017

This is too important not to act! This Call to Action serves as an opportunity for all students and education advocates to let our Congressmen know what we think of the provisions in the Tax Cut and Jobs Act. Read the Open Letter to US Congress, written jointly by NC State Student Government and GSA <u>HERE</u>. You may also read the Open Letter to Students written by our Student Body President <u>HERE</u>.

In short, some of the provisions this bill would entail include:

- Tuition waivers will be counted as taxable income and would ultimately cost graduate-professional students thousands to tens of thousands of dollars per year.
- Elimination of tax credits that graduate-professional students depend on, such as the American Opportunity Tax Credit, the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit, and the Student Loan Interest Deduction.

These are just a few examples of what The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act does. The time to act is NOW. Let your voice be heard and let your representatives in congress know your thoughts regarding the provisions in this bill!

## Steps you can take:

- 1. Calls to Congress: Beginning NOW through Wednesday, December 6, 2017, call your federal officials (members of the House and Senate) to voice your concerns about the bill. A full list of NC congressmen contact info can be found HERE
- 2. **Join a Rally at NC State!** Check back at this link <u>HERE</u> for updated information about any local rally's at NC State that you can join.
- 3. **Share the NAGPS "Dear Chairman Brady" Ad:** Spread awareness and remind Chairman Brady of the promise he made to help graduate students with <u>this video.</u>
- 4. **Be a part of the photo campaign:** Tell your reps what you do and how you'd be impacted by the bill. Printable signs to hold for photos can be found <u>HERE</u>. (See photo on right.)
- 5. **Join the Facebook Event:** Click <u>HERE</u> to join the Facebook event and stay updated with NAGPS.
- Visit your Congressional and Senate District Offices: NOW through Dec. 15, visit your congressmen to tell them what you think about the bill.
- Tweet your Congressmen: Take to social media to voice your concern regarding the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and its impact on higher education. #ReworkTheReform #NAGPS4U
- **8. Sign a petition:** Here is a <u>National</u> and <u>State-Wide</u> Petition.



## Sample language you can use:

- 1. "@\_\_\_\_\_\_, Tuition waivers should not be considered taxable income. The majority of stipends would be spent on taxes. #ReworkTheReform #NAGPS4U"
- 2. "Hi, my name is [your name] and I'm a constituent from [your town/city]. I'm calling because [express your opinion here]. Please tell [rep name] to [support/oppose] the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Thank you for your time."
- 3. Several more example tweets may be found HERE

**Pro-Tip!** Calling the district office of your Congressional rep is the most effective way to get government to listen to you. In general, it's better to speak to a person than to leave a voicemail. These linked call scripts can be used to call your representatives in the <a href="House">House</a> and <a href="Senate">Senate</a>.