RESOLUTION SC19-07

TO: Members of the General Assembly
FROM: University at Albany
SPONSORS: SUNYSA Graduate Subcommittee
DATE: April 5th, 2019
SUBJECT: Childcare Recommendation

ACTION REQUESTED
SUNYSA Graduate Subcommittee ask that the Student Assembly of The State University of New York (SUNY SA) recommends that each SUNY School and The SUNY Board of Trustees support student parents with childcare by disseminating information about childcare programs, consider affordable on-site childcare for student parents and offer information about funding opportunities and transportation to access affordable childcare.

RESOLUTION
We recommend that the Student Assembly of The State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, SUNY child care centers provide quality care for over 5,000 children at 48 centers across the state. These centers are located on both state-operated campuses and at the community colleges. SUNY also has one child care referral program. For example, SUNY Stony Brook offers programs to help subsidize student childcare costs to make it affordable for students; and,

Whereas, students with children are in need of affordable, low-cost childcare services on campus, there; and,

Whereas, students need more information on how to apply for state funding to help with childcare costs and non-stipend students find it hard to afford the rising costs of childcare; and,
Whereas, students at the University at Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo State, etc have expressed strong support for this issue because Graduation rates of student parents receiving campus child care are higher than campus counterparts. Also, student parents with access to child care are more likely to remain in school and graduate in fewer years; and,

Whereas, the 2019 NYS budget restored funding for SUNY childcare and created the Family Empowerment Pilot program, which creates new funding and support opportunities; and

Whereas, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education recommend on-site child care facilities and recommend that institutions have policies in place to create affordable child care on campuses; and,

Whereas, students and faculty advocating for child care believe that child care should be viewed as a human rights issue within higher education, and retention, and recruitment issue for the campus; and,

Whereas, student parents should be afforded the necessary resources to pursue higher education including childcare; therefore be it,

Resolved, that SUNYSA urges the all SUNY schools to support student-parents with childcare, disseminate information about childcare programs, consider affordable on-site childcare for student parents and offer information about funding opportunities and transportation to access affordable childcare; and be it finally,

Resolved, that SUNYSA, each SUNY School, and The SUNY Board of Trustees support and advocate for more affordable childcare options for student parents as well as better resources for student-parents in need of childcare.