



Executive Action Sheet for Senate Legislation

- Senate Bill 331-047
- Resolution 331-

I, Sydney Thayer, President of the Student Assembly of William & Mary do hereby:

- Approve
- Veto

The Student Assembly Senate Legislation:

The Women's Wellness for All Act

Sydney Thayer

President, 331st Student Assembly (23-24)

DATE: 3/6/24

331st Student Assembly,
Senate Bill 331-047

A Bill

A Student Assembly sponsored event to promote the awareness of health disparities for women of color as well as promote the education of women of color individual's health on campus through fellowship.

The Women's Wellness For All Act

An Act of the 331st Student Assembly of William & Mary,

Sponsored by Senator Soleil Garnett ('24)

Co-sponsored by Senator Mayer Tawfik ('27)

Supported by Senator Matthew Hwang ('25)

WHEREAS, the College of William and Mary has expressed its dedication to diversity initiatives and programming that allows the College to compensate for historical wrongs it has perpetrated against minorities and marginalized communities through both direct action and complacency;

WHEREAS, education about women's health and wellness is extremely important to the health and safety of women of color, but health conversations specifically pertaining to women of color are usually ignored;

WHEREAS, various health disparities affect women of color significantly, especially so for Black women, who are more likely than any other racial and ethnic group to die from cardiovascular disease, hypertension, preeclampsia, hemorrhage, stroke, lupus, several cancers;

WHEREAS, while data shows that 84% of maternal deaths are preventable, Black women have a 53% higher risk of dying in a hospital setting during childbirth (regardless of income level or insurance type);

WHEREAS, women of color are less likely to have health insurance due to socioeconomic and systemic barriers within the government and healthcare industry;

WHEREAS, due to medical mistreatment and systematic racism, Black women are twice as likely (compared to white women) to report mistreatment and willful ignorance, leading to 30% of Black women reporting poor treatment from caregivers in hospitals due to the race and gender;

WHEREAS, the educational awareness for women of color, especially Black women, should be a crucial part of health and wellness at William & Mary in order to properly see that women from marginalized communities can engage with and advocate for safe and healthy health and wellness practices;

WHEREAS, William & Mary can and should be a leading institution to help consistently and authentically combat medical racism against all women, especially Black women who are the most severely affected;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of William & Mary:

1. Allocates \$1,670 from the Student Assembly Reserves for the event;
 - a. \$1,670 for the costs of the Women's Wellness For All Event;
 - i. Dr. Sheila Ward, Certified instructor for the Umfundalai African Dance Technique and the Katherine Dunham Dance Technique: \$200
 - ii. Dr. Ardedra Rogers, Physical Therapist (Pelvic Health Specialist): \$200
 - iii. African Drumming Session: \$250
 - iv. Catered Dinner (via America-To-Go): \$1,000
 1. Estimated attendance is 100 people
 - v. Flyers: \$20
 2. Charges the sponsors of the bill with executing and planning this event in conjunction with the Department of Health and Safety.
 3. Charges the members of the Senate of Student Assembly to share posts advertising the Women's Wellness For All Event on Instagram and other channels of social media, and/or assist the Department of Outreach in hanging flyers/posters/other physical advertisements on campus.
 4. Encourages the members of the Student Assembly to attend the event in order to connect with the broader women's community at William & Mary and to reinforce the Student Assembly's commitment to diversity & inclusion initiatives and efforts.
 5. Encourages the members of the Student Assembly to volunteer for the event in order to help alleviate work for an underrepresented community.
 6. Stipulates that all unused funds will return to the Student Assembly reserves.
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