Executive Action Sheet for Senate Legislation

☐ Senate Bill 328- 002

Senate Resolution 328-

I, Anthony Joseph, President of the Student Assembly of William & Mary do hereby:

Approve

Veto

The Student Assembly Senate Legislation:

The Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series Act

DATE: July 13, 2020

Anthony Joseph
President of the 328th Student Assembly, William & Mary
328th Student Assembly,
Senate Bill 328-002

A Bill
To formally recognize the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series

The Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series Act

An Act of the 328th Student Assembly of the College of William and Mary,
Sponsored by Will Wasson
Co-sponsored by Suhas Sudala (President, Class of ‘22)
Supported by [NAMES OF SUPPORTERS]

WHEREAS, after the vicious murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Sean Reed, George Floyd, Tony McDade and countless other Black Americans, cities around the country and even the world called for reform in American police operations;

WHEREAS, many Americans protested, raising their voices against the injustice that Black Americans faced in their normal lives.

WHEREAS, perhaps one of the best ways to promote racial justice and support social reform is through the education of our community;

WHEREAS, on June 13th, 2020, the Student Assembly held a Town Hall meeting, at which it confirmed its commitment to reform on William & Mary’s campus;

WHEREAS, members of the Student Assembly and Student Bar Association have been working together to create programming that will assist students at William & Mary educate themselves on these poignant issues;

WHEREAS, the result of this work is the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series, a multi week event that asks members of the William & Mary community to come together to share their expertise and experience with certain issues;

WHEREAS, the current schedule for the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series is as follows:

- Police Reform vs. Defunding the Police -- Monday, July 13
  - Professor Adam Gershowitz (Criminal Law)
  - Mr. Roy L. Austin (Former DAAG at DOJ Civil Rights Division)
- How To Make Change Even If You Can't Protest -- Monday, July 20
  - Anthony Joseph (President of the Student Assembly)
  - Nicholas Agyevi-Armah (President of the Student Bar Association)
  - Madeline Williams (President, Black Graduate Student Organization)
- Voting Rights in the Age of COVID-19 -- Thursday, July 23
  - Professor Rebecca Green (Election law)
  - Max Weiss (ASAP, ELS)
○ Liz DePatie (ASAP, ELS)
○ Allen Coon (ASAP, ELS)

● Black Queer Lives Matter -- Thursday, July 30
  ○ Professor Vivian Hamilton (Family Law/Race & Law)
  ○ Dr. Jerry Watkins (Visiting Assistant Professor, History)
  ○ Dr. Leisa Meyer (Director of American Studies; Community Studies Professor of History, American Studies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies)
  ○ Ifeoma Ayika (Co-President, Rainbow Coalition)

● Maintaining Mental Health In A Social Movement -- Monday, August 3
  ○ Dr. Carina Sudarsky-Gleiser (Director of the Counseling Center)
  ○ Dr. Kelly Crace
  ○ Ke House (Undersecretary of Mental Wellness within Diverse Communities, W&M Student Assembly)

● The History of Black Americans and Restorative Practices -- Monday, August 10
  ○ Dr. Jody Allen (Director of the Lemon Project/Race & Ethnicity Historian)
  ○ Dr. Monika Gosin (Associate Professor of Sociology)

WHEREAS, Loni Wright, Ndome Esoka, Yasmine Palmer, Kira Simon, Jan Blackmon, Tolu Olaniyan, and Ravynn Stringfield have agreed to act as moderators for these sessions;

WHEREAS, Provost Peggy Agouris has also signed on as a sponsor of the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series and has agreed to advertise it to faculty and staff;


Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of the College of William and Mary:

1. Endorses and sponsors the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series
2. Charges the Undersecretaries of Outreach and the Diversity Initiatives department with advertising the event.
3. Encourages the Chair of the Senate to designate the Racial Justice & Social Reform Speaker Series as a “Senate-wide initiative” as allowed by §2.1-2.2-1 of the Code of the Student Assembly.