GSA Bill #21
University State Funding Advocacy

1   **WHEREAS,** state support is vital to the affordability of graduate and professional students'
2 education at the University of Nebraska; and,

3   **WHEREAS,** the 53,000 students of the University of Nebraska System, including the
4 almost 5,000 graduate and professional students currently enrolled at the University of Nebraska-
5 Lincoln, are future leaders in academia and industry, make up an important part of Nebraska's
6 workforce, and contribute to the University's vital educational mission and research innovations;
7 and,

8   **WHEREAS,** the University of Nebraska's annual economic impact on the state is $3.9
9 billion, a 6-to-1 return on every dollar the state invests; and,

10   **WHEREAS,** under the Governor's budget proposal, the University of Nebraska's funding
11 for the current year would be reduced $11 million, and next year's appropriation would be cut $23
12 million; and,

13   **WHEREAS,** over the biennium no other state agency received a larger dollar cut than the
14 University of Nebraska; and,

15   **WHEREAS,** further reductions in state funding will lead to academic program cuts that
16 would directly impact many graduate and professional students.

17   **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** we as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's
18 Graduate Student Assembly ask all state representatives to send a strong message of support of
19 Nebraska's young people, educators, and researchers by declaring higher education a priority of
20 the state; and,

21   **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT,** the Graduate Student Assembly,
22 as a subsidiary branch of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, will advocate
23 against cuts that could damage the long-term quality of the University of Nebraska and its ability
24 to contribute to the state's economic and civic well-being.

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Submitted by	VP Student Affairs Reilly	DATE	02/06/2018
Referred to	Assembly	DATE	02/06/2018
Committee action	Not applicable	DATE	
Floor action		DATE	
Presidential Signature		DATE	