

Graduate and Professional Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT

18th Session December 2, 2025 D.B. #9

Sponsor: Patrick Johnson, Finance Director

GPSG Action: Passed

A BILL

GPSG commits to providing Student Legal Services at Iowa with an additional \$5,000.00 for FY26 to support the Immigration Referral Program.

Section 1: Short Title

This bill may be cited as "Student Legal Services FY26 Supplement".

Section 2: Discussion

WHEREAS, Student Legal Services (SLS) is a law office located on the University of Iowa campus and provides confidential legal services to University of Iowa students at little to no cost;

WHEREAS, the mission of SLS is to provide high-quality free legal advice and legal representation to University of Iowa students, educate the student body on their legal rights and to advocate for their interests, and provide meaningful internship opportunities for law students to gain experience assisting underserved populations;

WHEREAS, SLS provides representation in civil and criminal cases in Johnson County, which may include negotiation, in-court proceedings, and appellate advocacy;

WHEREAS, SLS attorneys do not practice immigration law as it is not within the scope of their practice;

WHEREAS, for some family-based immigration questions (ex. green cards, fiancée visas), SLS will refer University of Iowa students to a local immigration attorney for an initial consultation and will pay for that consultation.

WHEREAS, in FY25, SLS saved students \$2,600 in legal fees through the Immigration Consultation Program;

WHEREAS, USG and GPSG annually commit to fund SLS with \$304,000.00 in "Off the Top" funding annually;

WHEREAS, SLS utilizes their "Off the Top" allocation, in conjunction with additional sources of funding, fully each year to fulfill their mission;

WHEREAS, the 2025-2026 GPSG administration has made it a priority to support programming and services that help graduate and professional students access basic needs;

WHEREAS, the GPSG FY26 Contingency Spend-Down Plan prioritizes additional support to SLS in order to further GPSG's commitment to supporting Graduate and Professional students;

WHEREAS, any GPSG spending in excess of \$1,500.00 must be voted on for approval by the GPSG delegates;

WHEREAS, GPSG's Contingency Account for FY26 is in a position that enables GPSG to allocate additional financial resources to support student services;

WHEREAS, GPSG intends that this block of funding to the SLS will serve solely as supplemental support for their Immigration Referral Program.

Section 3: Action

Therefore, be it Resolved, GPSG will allocate \$5,000.00 from its Contingency Account to Student Legal Services for their Immigration Referral Program.

Section 4: Enactment

THEREFORE, be it enacted by the University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signature of the President.



Nanle Gusen, Cabinet Director

APPROVED:

Abigail Crabtree, President

12/2/2025

Date