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**PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**



**BILL No. SP23 – B004**

**Funding of a Transitional Housing Grant**

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**Author(s):** Daniel Sinclair, Somosmita Mitra  
**Sponsor(s):** Somosmita Mitra, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering;  
Daniel Sinclair, School of Material Science Engineering

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**WHEREAS,** Graduate students report spending, on average, 56.21% of their post-tax income on rent<sup>1</sup>, meeting the common definition of a severe cost burden<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** 51% of surveyed graduate students report moving during their time at Purdue<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** Graduate students are forced to move between or temporarily leave housing due to unplanned and uncontrollable circumstances including poor or deteriorating housing quality, interpersonal conflict, nonrenewal of leases, changes in management, price increases, and changes in employment; and

**WHEREAS,** 54.8% of surveyed graduate students reported living in apartments with fixed move-in and move-out days, and 9.6% of surveyed students reported experiencing a period between 1 week and 1 month which was not covered by their lease<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** The transition between housing accommodations threatens access to overnight shelter, essential utilities, and storage of personal belongings; and

**WHEREAS,** Providing oneself with temporary accommodations adds to the existing financial burden of long-term housing, which may include fees, deposits, and other payments during the transitional period; and

**WHEREAS,** The moving process is likely to take time away from existing academic duties including coursework, research, and teaching; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xZMa-sqrbsR267hS1xYqjkcQeFw9IXMShpmFdd2om-c/edit>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ruralhome.org/reports/rural-housing-and-welfare-reform/>

**WHEREAS,** The combined financial, logistical, and emotional pressures of housing transition place a severe burden on graduate students' mental health; and

**WHEREAS,** PGSG has as one of its major goals the improvement of mental and physical wellbeing of graduate students, requiring specific and outcome-focused initiatives;

**WHEREAS,** PGSG Financial Code of Operations limits external spending procedures to grants administered by the Grant Review and Allocation Committee, with the oversight of review committees as needed;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED,** That PGSG allocates \$10,000 of its 2023-2024 budget to a newly implemented Transitional Housing Grant.

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That PGSG will create a GRAC Vice Chair position; the duties of this position will include monitoring THG application submissions, disseminating anonymized applications to the review committee, keeping records of requests and awards, and presiding in the GRAC Chair's place as needed on the review committee; the THG Vice Chair will be paid \$250 per year, in accordance with existing Vice Chair payment policies as laid out in the Financial Code of Operations;

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That authorization for the disbursement of the Transitional Housing Grant Funds shall be given by a Review Committee presided by the GRAC chair and consisting of: PGSG President, PGSG Treasurer, PGSG Chief of Staff, PGSG Advisor, and THG Vice Chair;

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That amendments to the Financial Code of Operations will be submitted before the PGSG Senate which will codify the management of the Transitional Housing Grant.

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That upon ratification of the Amendments to the financial code as presented in SP23-B005 by both BOSO and SAO, this Bill shall take full effect; should ratification of SP23-B005 by either or both of BOSO and/or SAO, this Bill shall be returned to the Purdue Graduate Student Senate for reconsideration.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ENACTED** 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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President, PGSG

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Senate Chair, PGSS

## Certification

I, Mary Brown, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing bill was regularly passed and enacted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES (41):** Agricultural Economics - Haseeb Daudzai  
Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication - Bryanna Nelson  
Animal Sciences - Sarah Innis  
Anthropology - Olivia Palepoi  
Biochemistry - Steven McKenzie  
Biological Sciences - Morgan Chaney  
Biomedical Engineering - Michael Zimmerman  
Botany and Plant Pathology - Ricky Critchfield  
Chemical Engineering - Annie Sun  
Chemistry - Solita Wilson  
Civil Engineering - Agustin Quinones  
Communication - Savannah Meier  
Comparative Literature - Marisa J. Bryans  
Computer Science - Jacob White  
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences - Austin Blevins  
Economics - Talha Cakir  
Electrical and Computer Engineering - Somosmita Mitra  
Engineering Education - Barbara Fagundes  
Engineering Technology - Pragatheiswar Giri  
English - Christopher Barber  
Environmental and Ecological Engineering - Aliya Edhe  
Food Science - Anaël Kimble  
Forestry and Natural Resources - Ken Yao Chong  
Global Supply Chain Management - Rohan Saini  
Health Sciences - Sydney Stradtman  
History - Secret Permenter  
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture - Camila Ulloa Gomez  
Hospitality and Tourism Management - Rachel Zhang  
Human Development and Family Studies - Amy Loviska  
Industrial Engineering - Utkuhan Genc  
Languages and Cultures - Santiago Parra Giraldo  
Materials Engineering - Daniel Sinclair  
Nuclear Engineering - Stepan Ozerov  
Nutrition Science - Julia Choi  
Philosophy - Mary Brown  
Physics and Astronomy - Shayamal Singh  
Public Health - Sidney Smith

Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Lauren Wilbanks

Sociology - Reilly Kincaid

Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences - Brooke Rodgers

Technology, Leadership, and Innovation - Elizabeth Thompson

**NAYS (1):** Veterinary Clinical Sciences - Ojo Oluwabunmi T.

**ABSENT (6):** Agronomy - Binod Gyawali

Aviation and Transportation Technology - Shantanu Gupta

Curriculum and Instruction - Theodora Amuah

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Alaunie Smiley

Management - Arindam Roy Chowdhury

Political Science - Matthew Ellis

**ABSTAINED (8):** Agricultural and Biological Engineering - Mike Sserunjogi

Basic Medical Sciences - Siyuan Sun

Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Neha Shakelly

Educational Studies - Stephanie Contreras

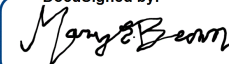
Industrial and Physical Pharmacy - Pradnya Prakash Bapat

Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - Antonia Susnjar

Mechanical Engineering - Meghavin Bhatasana

Statistics - Imon Banerjee

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

DocuSigned by:  


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Senate Clerk, PGSS