Statement of the Faculty Senate on the Proposed Federal Tax Legislation Treating Graduate Tuition Waivers as Income

The Faculty Senate at the University of Houston expresses our deepest concern regarding the proposed federal tax legislation that would treat graduate tuition waivers as taxable income. This would have a significant negative impact on graduate students. This House of Representatives tax reform version, if passed into law, will decrease graduate student enrollment and therefore research output here at UH. We recognize and sympathize with the very real anxieties of our students regarding this potential change. We urge the university to advocate for the best interests of our graduate students by opposing this legislation through all appropriate channels.

We also encourage UH faculty and students to stand together as a community against this bill by contacting your legislator directly and also by signing the AAUP petition (https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/support-students-vote-no-on-the-tax-bill) urging key members of Congress to vote against this bill.