

# Assembly Resolution 02

Twenty-Fourth Legislative Session

## INTRODUCED BY

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## RESOLUTION REJECTING THE FEDERAL HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

WHEREAS, Arizona State University (ASU) met with White House officials to consider signing the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education. The compact's intentions remain unclear, but it outlines ten expectations the university must follow in order to receive federal funding. The compact, offered to nine universities in September, promises preferential access to federal grants in exchange for complying with White House demands. Six Universities have rejected it, according to reporting in the *Wall Street Journal*.<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, signing this compact would directly impact ASU policy and students; therefore, students should have a voice in whether or not this compact is signed.

WHEREAS, as a public university, ASU relies heavily on federal funding; thus, this academic institution has been put in an impossible position between its commitment to inclusive excellence and access to the federal resources that allow the university to function.

WHEREAS, ASU's charter states, "measured not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed." <sup>2</sup> Language in the Compact leads to exclusivity of students and a lack of equity for students, which would cause the university to not uphold its charter.

WHEREAS, the compact also demands that states **limit fifteen percent of ASU's student body to international students**. This explicitly creates an environment of exclusion in student government, contradicting the ASU charter.

WHEREAS, much of the language in the compact leans towards a political ideology, such as "Signatories commit themselves to revising governance structures as necessary to create such an environment, including but not limited to transforming or abolishing institutional units that purposefully punish, belittle, and even spark violence against conservative ideas" <sup>3</sup>. As a public

university, ASU should not take sides with any political party and should focus on issues that directly impact students. This lack of focus on student issues takes away from student learning.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Graduate Student Government (GSG) urges university officials to reject any offer of this compact. Protect Arizona State University's academic freedom and do not sign the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education, as it contradicts the ASU Charter.

### Citations

<sup>1</sup>Belkin , Douglas, Natalie Andrews , and Eliza Collins . "White House Meets With New Colleges About 'Compact' After Rejections." Wall Street Journal , October 17, 2025.

[https://www.wsj.com/us-news/education/trump-administration-meets-with-more-colleges-about-sweeping-compact-after-rejections-153bfca4?gaa\\_at=eafs&gaa\\_n=AWetsqcWjlAa6uvRH8BS9\\_KVAc-HdnlYWcwe260PIb9FTKpnQaaLEuzXapW4&gaa\\_ts=68f683f7&gaa\\_sig=hDin4XIPa3EXItmD-nHJLS8z373-ittXLm5yyuJ-UlmFDDFqpUZ9TfwnEV2Ab1QjlpRYsRFtOYjBhqpEICRvJg%3D%3D](https://www.wsj.com/us-news/education/trump-administration-meets-with-more-colleges-about-sweeping-compact-after-rejections-153bfca4?gaa_at=eafs&gaa_n=AWetsqcWjlAa6uvRH8BS9_KVAc-HdnlYWcwe260PIb9FTKpnQaaLEuzXapW4&gaa_ts=68f683f7&gaa_sig=hDin4XIPa3EXItmD-nHJLS8z373-ittXLm5yyuJ-UlmFDDFqpUZ9TfwnEV2Ab1QjlpRYsRFtOYjBhqpEICRvJg%3D%3D) .

<sup>2</sup>"Charter." Arizona State University. <https://www.asu.edu/about/charter-mission>.

<sup>3</sup>"Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education Introduction." Washington Examiner.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Compact-for-Academic-Excellence-in-Higher-Education-10.1.pdf> .