

Senate Bill

Act Number: 2023-06

15 February 2023

Introduced by: Senator Andrew Taranta

Proposed by: Senator Andrew Taranta, Senator Dean Jigarjian

Whereas: The Student Government Association (SGA) of Ramapo College of New Jersey is the liaison body to the Faculty, Staff, Administration, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of Ramapo College of New Jersey;

Whereas: The recent earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria and other affected countries has resulted in widespread devastation and displacement, and has left countless individuals in need of humanitarian aid and support. According to the latest figures, over 36,000 people have been killed with many more injured in addition to billions of dollars worth in damages;¹

Whereas: The United States has a long-standing relationship with the Syrian people, though current sanctions and other factors have limited the ability of the U.S. to provide direct humanitarian aid to those affected by the disaster;

Whereas: The Ramapo College of New Jersey (RCNJ) community is aware that some of its students may have connections to the regions impacted by the earthquake, and may be directly or indirectly impacted by the disaster;

Whereas: The Ramapo College Student Government Association (SGA) and the SGA of Drew University both have a history of promoting and supporting initiatives that address pressing global issues, such as the aftermath of natural disasters;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The RCNJ and Drew University SGAs collectively extend their heartfelt condolences to those suffering the consequences of this destructive earthquake, including but not limited to Turkey and Syria. Many thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones, homes, and communities in the disaster. The RCNJ and Drew University SGAs also recognize the emotional impact this tragedy may have on our students who may have connections to the affected regions, and stand with them in solidarity during this difficult time;

¹ <https://www.cnn.com/middleeast/live-news/turkey-syria-earthquake-updates-2-13-23-intl/index.html>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The RCNJ and Drew University SGAs will collaborate on a programming initiative aimed at supporting those affected by the earthquake. This effort will involve fundraising and awareness-raising activities, as well as partnerships with local organizations working on the ground to provide assistance to those in need;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: This programming initiative is to serve as a demonstration of the Student Government Association's resolve in addressing pressing global issues, and to act as a model for future collaboration between SGA organizations. This effort will also be a point of pride and recognition at the SGA conference held by Drew University earlier in 2022, showcasing the power of SGA organizations to effect positive change.

Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya

Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
President '22 - '23

Ashley Gomez

Ashley Gomez
Senate President '22 - '23