

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

FACULTY SENATE

RESOLUTION #02-03--4

On May 8, 2003, the Faculty Senate of the University of Rhode Island joined the URI Student Senate in support of H.R. 685 and adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, a provision in the Higher Education Act of 1998 mandates that students or prospective students convicted of any drug-related offence be denied eligibility for federal financial aid for a period ranging from One Year to a Lifetime, and

Whereas, this provision of the Higher Education Act 1998 has a discriminatory impact on a number of demographics including people of color and students of low to moderate economic means, and

Whereas, it has been shown that education is an important factor in rehabilitating persons convicted of a crime and allowing such people to become productive, well-rounded citizens, therefore be it

Resolved, that the URI Faculty Senate supports H.R. 685, which will repeal the applicable portions of the Higher Education Act of 1998, and be it further

Resolved, that the URI Faculty Senate urges Rep. Patrick Kennedy, Rep. James Langevin, Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, to express public support of H. R. 685.

This resolution will be forwarded to R.I. Congressional Representatives Patrick Kennedy and James Langevin.