



Executive Action Sheet for Senate Legislation

Senate Bill 329-

Resolution 329-

I, Meghana Boojala, President of the Student Assembly of William & Mary do hereby:

Approve

Veto

The Student Assembly Senate Legislation:



Meghana Boojala

President, 329th Student Assembly (21-22)

DATE:

329<sup>th</sup> Student Assembly  
Senate Bill 329-039

A Bill

*To provide emergency funding for students who face financial hardship after sexual assault, harassment, and intimate partner violence*

**The Haven Act**

An Act of the 329th Student Assembly of William & Mary,

Sponsored by Senator Taylor Fox ('24) & Senator Vicky Morales ('22)

Supported by Secretary of Health and Safety Amelia Grossman ('22)

WHEREAS, The Haven is a peer-based confidential, welcoming, and inclusive resource center for those impacted by sexual violence and harassment, relationship abuse and intimate-partner violence, stalking, and other gender-based discrimination;

WHEREAS, The Haven is open to all and does not discriminate based on race, citizenship, national origin or ethnicity, ancestry, religion or creed, political affiliation or belief, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and disability;

WHEREAS, The Haven welcomes all who may have questions or concerns, who need support and resources, and who are seeking guidance and connection. Whether you have experienced abuse, harassment, or violence in the past, whether you have had a recent experience, or whether you are concerned for a friend. At the Haven, they hope to provide all students with options and resources that help them choose their next steps on the path of healing and recovery;

WHEREAS, to meet students' demonstrated financial needs, Liz Cascone has newly established the Haven Emergency Fund;

WHEREAS, financial barriers are common to many students on their path to recovery especially with medical costs related to STD testing and medications;

WHEREAS, The Haven Emergency Fund provides limited financial assistance to William & Mary students as a result of experiencing sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, or other gender-based discrimination/harassment. This fund is for survivors who may have costs related to unanticipated medical expenses, medications, treatments, transportation, and/or safety-related needs;

WHEREAS, The process to receive funding starts first with an application then it goes to liv who redacts all information that identifies a student. Next, a committee headed by Liz Cascone and

comprised of Haven volunteers converse about if The Haven can fund the need expressed by the student applicant given the very limited purview of what can be financed out of this emergency fund;

WHEREAS, The Haven is an essential resource to all William and Mary students and should be properly financed to help students in need of their services;

WHEREAS, financial struggles should never stop a student from receiving the care they need to be healthy and safe;

WHEREAS, this funding will be a one-time allocation to support the gap between student needs and the William & Mary budgeting process. William & Mary will be funding the emergency relief for the rest of its existence starting the Fall 2022 semester.

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the 329th Student Assembly of William & Mary:

1. Allocates \$4,000 from Student Assembly Reserves to The Haven Emergency Fund to assist in providing emergency funds to students experiencing hardships due to expenses related to unanticipated medical expenses, medications, treatments, transportation, and/or safety-related needs from sexual assault, intimate partner violence, abuse, and harassment.
2. Charges the Haven with managing funds and disseminating them appropriately to students with its already established application-based funding process.