WHEREAS, Student Senate has historically provided health insurance for students through an Agent of Record; and

WHEREAS, providing this service helps protect students against unnecessary financial risks due to unpredictable occurrences; and

WHEREAS, the current contract will soon expire; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the 51st session, the minimum credit requirements for purchasing health insurance for part-time Graduate School students was lowered to five credits; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the 51st session, a preferred provider network (Health EOS) was adopted to give students the opportunity to find the most economical services; and
WHEREAS, because the 50th session approved a rate guarantee for no more than 10% for three academic years, the rate will only increase that amount instead of a potentially larger amount; and

WHEREAS, the coverage will remain the same as 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 for the 2008-2009 academic year with a 10% maximum increase each year; and

WHEREAS, after the 2008-2009 academic year, there is no guarantee for the maximum percent increase in rates; and

WHEREAS, after the 2008-2009 academic year, it will be important to look at alternatives in policy in order to keep coverage better than the UW System plan; and

WHEREAS, a group should be created to research some of the alternatives including providing more information to students in the fall, online payment options, incorporating an opt-in page with registering for fall classes, and a soft waiver that would require students to opt-out of the program; and

WHEREAS, this group should be organized as soon as possible so that they can work into the fall with Associate Dean Jodi Thesing-Ritter to provide a recommendation to the Chancellor for future alternatives with our health insurance program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the 52nd Session of Student Senate approves the renewal bid by Columbian Life for a 10% increase from $765.00 to $842.00 for students 30 years of age and under and $996.00 to $1,096.00 for students 31 years of age and older; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 52nd Session of Student Senate charges the Student Body President and Vice President to organize a group of students to work with the Associate Dean of Student Development and Diversity Jodi Thesing-Ritter to research possible alternatives to our current coverage; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President French transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Steven Tallant, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student Services; Donald Southard, Agent of Record; Ann Lapp, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.