

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

“SENSE OF SENATE RESOLUTION”

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University registers its strong opposition to the Michigan House of Representatives Bill HB-4770 in that it disallows the existing provision by a public employer of medical and other fringe benefits for domestic partners.

On the bases of the following:

1. The Michigan Supreme Court’s 1999 decision of **Federated Publications Inc v Board of Trustees of MSU**, *“legislation that clearly infringes on the university’s education or financial autonomy must therefore yield to the university’s constitutional power.”*
2. Statements on current University’s employment applications, *“Michigan Tech is also an ADVANCE institution, one of a select number of universities in receipt of NSF funds in support of our commitment to increase diversity and the participation and advancement of women in STEM. Michigan Technological University is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution / Equal Opportunity Employer. ”*
3. The Strategic Plan and Goals of our University, **“GOAL 1: Attract, retain, and support a world-class and diverse faculty, staff, and student population.**
 - 1.1 *Provide an outstanding professional and cultural environment for all members of the Michigan Tech community.*
 - *provide competitive compensation, recognize, and reward successful faculty and staff;*
 - 1.2 *Cultivate a diverse, inclusive, and collegial environment.*
 - *develop and implement campus and unit initiatives to increase diversity;***GOAL 3: Establish world-class research, scholarship, innovation, and creative work that promotes sustainable economic and social development in Michigan, the nation, and the world.”**