

JANUARY 21, 2021.

THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT,
REPUBLIC OF GHANA.

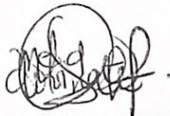
DEAR MR. SPEAKER,

**PETITION TO THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION BY MAHAMA AYARIGA MP TO PASS A RESOLUTION LEADING TO THE
SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT OF TERTIARY FEES BY STUDENTS IN PUBLIC
TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2020/21 ACADEMIC YEAR.**

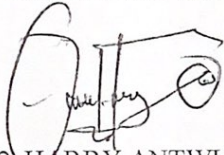
The Humble Petition of the Undersigned Petitioners follows:

1. The Petitioners are Ghanaian tertiary students from tertiary institutions across the country and student leaders representing various student unions across the country, under the banner of the National Union of Ghana Students.
2. That the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a massive loss of jobs and incomes of Ghanaian workers; causing the Government of Ghana to roll out relief packages to cushion Ghanaian families and workers.
3. That given the economic toll the COVID-19 pandemic has had on families and working students across the country, many tertiary students are at risk of deferring studies for the 2020/21 academic year since neither their parents and/or guardians nor themselves are able to raise the amounts needed to pay for fees for the academic year.
4. That despite having implemented several COVID-19 alleviation relief measures to cushion Ghanaians from the economic fallouts of the pandemic; including suspending the payment of water and electricity tariffs by members of the public, disbursing loans to small and medium sized businesses, amongst others, the Government of Ghana has implemented no such alleviation measure for tertiary students in terms of scrapping parts or all of the fees paid by students or absorbing same.
5. That as a consequence of the restrictions imposed on various aspects of life by the COVID-19 pandemic, public tertiary institutions have resorted to online modules of teaching and learning; a situation which has reduced the costs these institutions typically incur in delivering traditional face-to-face tuition.
6. That the fees being charged by public tertiary institutions for the 2020/21 academic year were approved by the Parliament of the Republic of Ghana in the Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous Provision) Instrument, 2019 (L.I. 2386) effective from the 2019/2020 academic year.
7. That at the time these fees contained in the aforementioned legislation of Parliament were approved by the Parliament of the Republic, the prevailing economic circumstances of the country and its citizens were starkly better than they are today; a state of affairs which has since deteriorated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

8. That notwithstanding these deteriorated economic circumstances of working families and students; and notwithstanding the fact that the time period for the 2020/21 academic year is lesser than that of a normal academic year; and notwithstanding the transition to online modules of teaching and learning, which has reduced administrative costs associated in delivering tuition and running tertiary institutions, public tertiary institutions continue to charge fees that were approved for the 2019/20 academic year when all the aforementioned conditions were non-existent.
9. That we, the undersigned students and student leaders have taken notice of the motion moved by Mahama Ayariga MP, requesting the suspension of payments of fees by students in public tertiary institutions; and urge all Members of Parliament to work in the interests of students by supporting the motion. At a time of mass hardship occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, Ghanaian students are watching their Members of Parliament keenly, and are urging them to do right by the students of this country by supporting the motion so moved by Mahama Ayariga MP.
10. WHEREFORE we pray this Honourable Parliament.



1. DIVINE EDEM KWADZODEH
GENERAL SECRETARY
NATIONAL UNION OF GHANA STUDENTS
LEAD PETITIONER



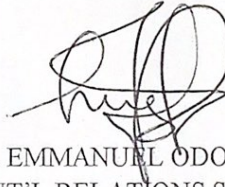
2. HARRY ANTWI KARIHARI
SECRETARY FOR UNION DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL UNION OF GHANA STUDENTS



3. SAMUEL SAGOE
PRESIDENT
GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASS. OF GH.



4. JOSHUA NII TACKIE ESSEL
COORDINATING SECRETARY
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASS. OF GH



5. EMMANUEL ODONKOR
INT'L RELATIONS SECRETARY
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASS. OF GH.

Cc: The Clerk of Parliament
Mahama Ayariga MP
The Majority Leader
The Minority Leader