

RESOLUTION 0015

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD
University of Pittsburgh
1 November 2011

Introduced by Board Member Ryan Gayman
Co-Sponsored by Board Member Alex Zimmerman

Whereas, the ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo has claimed the lives of over six million people over the past decade;

Whereas, the aforementioned conflict is directly funded by the sale of tin, tantalum, tungsten, and gold minerals, which are used in consumer products manufactured by electronics companies in the United States;

Whereas, Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act requires companies using these minerals to submit a “report describing, among other matters, the measures taken to exercise due diligence on the source and chain of custody of those minerals”;

Whereas, over sixty public and private universities nationwide have joined the movement to urge their electronics providers to ensure that their supply chains are “conflict-free,” with seven schools passing resolutions on the matter to date;

Whereas, the University of Pittsburgh holds substantive contracts with said electronics companies, including Apple, Dell, and Microsoft, which provide their products and services in significant quantities for the use of faculty and students;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, On this 1 November 2011 that the Student Government Board of the University of Pittsburgh recognizes the connection between electronics companies and the atrocities being committed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and implores the administration to support the conflict-free movement by advocating to their electronics providers the importance of adhering to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act, and to formulate a strategy that will commit to purchasing verifiably conflict-free products where available for the University.

Ryan Gayman

Alex Zimmerman