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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, October 31st, 2017

SGB wishes everyone a happy Halloween and reminds students to stay safe while celebrating!

At public meeting a resolution in support of PA Senate Bill 196 was introduced, in honor of Pitt student Alina Sheykhet, who was tragically murdered in an incident of domestic violence. The resolution calls upon passage of the bill and for it to be renamed "Alina's law". The bill's objective is to strengthen protection from abuse orders, commonly known as PFA's, allowing judges to order electronic monitoring devices for those with PFA's filed against them. Alina's death demonstrates that the current laws in place are insufficient to protect victims of domestic violence. Pitt seeks to create an environment in which all students and individuals may live free of harm and always feel safe. Therefore the Student Government Board is joining the voices of the community, along with Alina's parents, to call for the renaming of the bill to honor Alina's life and make sure her memory continues in perpetuity. The full resolution can be viewed at <http://sgb.pitt.edu/government/governing-documents/>, and it will be officially voted on at the next public meeting (Tuesday, November 7th).

SGB is pleased to announce that the ACC Advocacy Days trip was a success. The trip to Washington D.C. gave an opportunity for the Board to engage with federal legislators on a variety of issues important to Pitt students. The main topics discussed were the rising costs of college tuition, federal financial aid, research funding, and a long-term solution to DACA. The trip also offered a great opportunity to learn about student governments from across the ACC.

On November 8th SGB and the Office of Community & Governmental Relations are hosting the annual tenant workshop. Two sessions will run, one from 5-7pm and the other from 7-9pm in the WPU Assembly Room. Students who are considering off campus housing are strongly encouraged to attend in order to learn more about off campus living, leases and the neighborhood of Oakland.

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For more information on the ACC trip or the proposed resolution, contact Max Kneis at max.kneis@pitt.edu, for information on the tenant workshop, contact Jessa Chong at jac393@pitt.edu