



Senate Resolution

Senate Resolution #: 25

Sponsored by: Latham & Jacobsen

WHEREAS: The Legislative Agenda passed by the 71st Student Senate “acknowledges the critical need for mental health resources on campus as the demand for access to mental health continues to increase, and strongly supports enhanced efforts to improve students' access to mental health resources”, and

WHEREAS: HB 595 was filed in the Florida House of Representatives by Representative Silvers and SB 530 has been introduced to the Florida Senate by Senator Brandes, and

WHEREAS: SB 530 “Prohibits arrest, charge or penalty under specified provisions of person seeking medical assistance for individual experiencing alcohol or drug-related overdose or for himself or herself; prohibits this protection from being grounds for suppression of evidence in other prosecutions”, and

WHEREAS: Florida State University supports “supports a safe and inclusive environment” and has already enacted a Medical Amnesty Policy on campus, and

WHEREAS: Cornell, which studied the effects of Medical Amnesty on student populations, concluded that “students were less likely to report fear of getting an intoxicated person in trouble as a barrier for calling for help”, and

WHEREAS: Cornell concluded that “the percentage of students seen by health center staff for a brief psycho-intervention after an alcohol-related emergency more than doubled (from 25% to 52%) by the end of the second year”, and

WHEREAS: The Florida Student association, comprised of the 12 State Universities of Florida, endorses the expansion of Florida’s current Medical Amnesty program “due to the widespread use of this policy, studied success, and moral ethics of protecting those in need”, and

WHEREAS: “These findings directly correlate with the Florida State University System’s Board of Governor’s efforts to create campus communities that prioritize student safety and mental wellbeing”, and

WHEREAS: SB 530 is supported by the Remove the Mask Mental Health Council, and

WHEREAS: Alcohol related unintentional injuries are a leading cause of death among young people in the United States, and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEVENTY FIRST STUDENT SENATE AT THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

The Florida State University Student Government Association stands in strong support of HB 595 & SB 530 urges the Florida Legislature to pass this bill to enhance student life and learning in the State of Florida, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

SB 530 & HB 595 is added to the 2019 Legislative Agenda.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

a copy of this resolution is sent to:

Evan Steinberg, Office of Governmental Affairs Director

Stacey Pierre, Student Body President

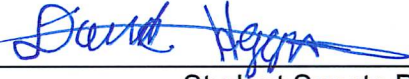
Kathy Mears, FSU Chief Legislative Affairs Officer

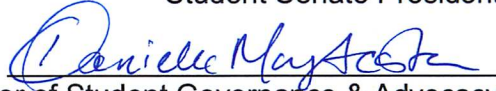
Amy Hecht, Vice President of Student Affairs

John Thrasher, President of Florida State University

David Silvers, Florida State Representative – District 87

Jeff Brandes, Florida State Senator – District 24

OFFICIALS: 
Student Senate President


Director of Student Governance & Advocacy

SENATE VOTE: 44-0-1
PASSED: 28TH OF MARCH, 2019