



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

73RD STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 16

Primary Sponsor: Marcus

Whereas: On Wednesday, January 27th, 2021, two separate EF-1 tornadoes tracked across Leon County and the city of Tallahassee, damaging portions of the Tallahassee International Airport and the Southwood neighborhood within the city limits, and

Whereas: A Tornado Warning was issued for Leon County, including the Florida State University campus, at 11:20 AM, and

Whereas: A damaging tornado was confirmed to be within Tallahassee city limits at 11:43 AM, and

Whereas: An FSU Alert went out at 11:34 AM informing registered individuals that campus was under a tornado warning, and

Whereas: Another FSU Alert went out at 11:51 AM informing registered individuals that campus was still under a tornado warning, and

Whereas: An alarm went off in FSU buildings informing individuals that there was a tornado warning in effect, and

Whereas: Multiple students flooded the text messages and social media private messages of the FSU Meteorology students from the College of Arts and Sciences and the FSU Weather student television production accounts with questions regarding proper tornado safety protocols, and

Whereas: Multiple students living in FSU Residence Halls informed FSU Meteorology students that their Resident Assistants were unable to provide them with clear instructions as to where to go to seek shelter within their buildings, and

Whereas: Multiple FSU students living in multi-story student apartment/housing complexes reported that there was no tornado safety plans in place for their apartment complexes, and

Whereas: The National Weather Service Tallahassee, located in the Love Building, recommends that individuals "Move to an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Avoid windows... and protect yourself from flying debris," in the event of a tornado, and

Whereas: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Ready Nation recommends that schools "follow your tornado drill and proceed to your tornado shelter location quickly and calmly. Stay away from windows and do not go to large open rooms such as cafeterias, gymnasiums, or auditoriums," in the event of a tornado, and

Whereas: The alerts.fsu.edu website reads, "When a tornado warning is issued for campus, immediately seek shelter in the nearest well-constructed building, away from doors and windows. Try to reasonably place as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Seek more information. Go to alerts.fsu.edu to obtain the details about the warning, including: estimated arrival time, direction, duration, and estimated expiration time. Once the warning has expired, and there is no evidence of damage, you may proceed with your normal course of business," and

Whereas: The FSU Housing website reads, "In the event of a tornado threat to FSU, the university will provide specific recommendations for how students should prepare," and

Whereas: It is evident that a large portion of students, including resident assistants and off-campus residents, were unprepared for a tornado emergency to occur, and

Whereas: The emergency.fsu.edu website says "The SGA has an Office of Campus Security which works closely with the FSU Public Safety departments to ensure the safety of students on campus;" therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-second Student Senate at Florida State University that:

Florida State University Housing should create a concrete, actionable tornado warning preparedness plan based off the guidelines from both the Federal Emergency Management Agency's "Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Institutions of High Education" and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Ready Nation.

Be it further resolved that: University Housing should implement a semesterly tornado drill similar to the fire drills it already conducts.

Be it further resolved that: University Housing should train its Resident Assistants and Night Staff on what to do in the event of a tornado so that they can calmly inform residents of what to do in the event of a warning

Be it lastly resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:
John Thrasher, President of Florida State University
Shannon Staten, Executive Director of University Housing
Edwin Darrell, Director of Residential Student Experience
Rachel Blakesly, Associate Director of Residential Student Experience
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs
Curtis Sommerhoff, Director of Emergency Management
Matt Lewis, Emergency Management Preparedness Coordinator
Jonathan Levin, Student Body President
Merissa Chu, IRHC Director

OFFICIAL: _____

DocuSigned by:
Alexander Harmon
18244305-5968406
Student Senate President

UNANIMOUS CONSENT
PASSED: January 10th, 2021