



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

73rd STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 41

Primary Sponsor: Marcus, Nasworthy

Co-Sponsor(s): Soto

Whereas: In August of 1956, the Florida Legislature created an Investigative Committee commonly known as the Johns Committee, and

Whereas: The purpose of this committee shifted from linking the NAACP to communism to investigating homosexuality at Florida-supported agencies such as Florida State University, and

Whereas: Under the auspices of this committee, University administration, employees, local police agencies, and students were used to accuse and investigate fellow professors and students for supposed homosexual and queer activities, and

Whereas: Anyone accused of being a part of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus community was subject to removal from classrooms, given the option to leave the school or face "conversion therapy" from a psychologist, and

Whereas: People were accused and interrogated for things such as simple as wearing Bermuda shorts and being in a bathroom for too long, and

Whereas: The Tallahassee Police Department paid Florida State University students and professors for the name of a suspected homosexual colleague, and

Whereas: Hundreds of faculty members and students were forced to leave the University system or live in constant fear of being outed, and

Whereas: There are records of this persecution happening at the University of Florida and the University of South Florida as well, and

Whereas: In 2019, State Representative Evan Jenne and State Senator Lauren Book introduced a resolution that has yet to pass to formally apologize to these victims, and

Whereas: On April 1, 2021, the FSU Honors Program welcomed Dr. Karen Graves as she presented "Unexplored Traces: FSU's Imprint on the Legacy of the Johns Committee," in which she analyzed the traces of the Florida legislature's Johns Committee here at FSU, and

Whereas: The month of June is nationally recognized as LGBTQ+ Pride Month, and

Whereas: Florida State University has yet to acknowledge Pride Month nor has it formally apologized to the members of this community that suffered as a result of these former policies, therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-third Student Senate at Florida State University that: Florida State University should formally acknowledge Pride Month and apologize for its past actions towards the LGBTQ+ community.

Be it further resolved that: the Florida Legislature should pass a resolution that formally apologizes to the victims of the predatory Johns Committee.

Be it further resolved that: the FSU History Department is sincerely thanked for their efforts to raise awareness of these issues via their Instagram account.

Be it lastly resolved that: a copy of this resolution should be sent to:

John Thrasher, Outgoing Florida State University President
Dr. Richard McCullough, Incoming Florida State University President
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Brandon Bowden, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Angela Chong, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Engagement
Nastassia 'Tazzy' Janvier, Student Body President
Colbi Thykadavil, Student Body Vice President
Kahleel Gray, Student Body Treasurer
Emmabella Rudd, Director of OGA Board of Directors
The Florida State University Department of History
Grace Wilson, Pride Student Union Advisor
Lauren Book, State Senator, District 32
Evan Jenne, State Representative, District 99
Allison Tant, State Representative, District 9
Ramon Alexander, State Representative, District 8
Loranne Ausley, State Senator, District 3
Dan Daley, State Representative, District 97
Michele Raynor-Goolsby, State Representative, District 70
Carlos Guillermo Smith, State Representative, District 49
Anna Eskamani, State Representative, District 47
Shevrin Jones, State Senator, District 35
Gary Farmer, State Senator, District 34
Janet Cruz, State Senator, District 18

OFFICIAL: _____

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Alexander Harmon
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Student Senate President

7/12/2021 | 2:10 PM EDT

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT
PASSED: July 7th, 2021**