



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

75th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 34

Primary Sponsor: Allgoever, Chehaitli

Co-Sponsor(s): Bettley, Burton, DuChêne, LoBianco, Maglin, Rivers

Whereas: 2022 Florida Statute 1006.53 on Religious Observances delegates responsibility for creating policy regarding absence accommodation for students observing holy days to each public postsecondary educational institution, and

Whereas: Present policy for Florida State University on this matter states that, “Each student shall, upon notifying their instructor as soon as possible upon receipt of the course syllabus, but no later than two weeks before the religious holy day observance, be excused from class to observe a religious holy observance of their faith,” and

Whereas: This restrictive policy presents an additional challenge for students of faiths whose observed holy days fall outside those deemed excused holidays per the University Calendar, and


Whereas: It is essential to consider the adjacent academic disadvantages faced by students of different faiths who are impacted negatively by the time-sensitive nature of this policy, therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: this body recommends an adjustment to current policy calling upon students to notify professors two weeks prior to the respective religious holy day in which they choose to request absence, and

Be it further resolved that: The Student Senate at Florida State University encourages the Faculty Senate and all other administrative entities to support a change to this policy to only require one week’s notice of absence before the holy day to promote accessibility to students of all religious backgrounds, and

Be it lastly resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to
Jacalyn Butts, Assistant Director of Student Governance & Advocacy
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Engagement
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Brandon Bowden, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Eric Chicken, Faculty Senate President
Dr. Janet Kistner, Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement
Ms. Veronica Lopez, Faculty Senate Coordinator

OFFICIAL: _____

DocuSigned by:

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4/12/2023 | 10:53 AM PDT

Student Senate President

**Senate Vote: UNANIMOUS CONSENT
PASSED: April 5th, 2023**