



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## 75<sup>th</sup> STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 67

**Primary Sponsor(s):** Mendez

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Behar, Staveski, Garcia

**Date:** September 19, 2023

**Whereas:** Deaf Awareness Month is observed annually during the month of September to promote awareness, understanding, and inclusion of the deaf and hard of hearing community, and

**Whereas:** The deaf and hard of hearing community face unique challenges and barriers in various aspects of life, including education, employment, healthcare, and social interactions, and

**Whereas:** Promoting awareness and advocating for equal opportunities and access for the deaf and hard of hearing can lead to a more inclusive and equitable society, and

**Whereas:** On April 8, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed the charter of Gallaudet University in Washington D.C, the first school for the advance education of the deaf and hard of hearing in the world, and

**Whereas:** Acknowledging the invaluable contributions, remarkable talents, and outstanding achievements of individuals such as Helen Keller, a trailblazing disability rights advocate, Marlee Matlin, an acclaimed and award-winning American actress, and Nyle DiMarco, a groundbreaking pioneer as the first deaf contestant on America's Next Top Model, within the deaf and hard of hearing community stands as an imperative cornerstone in our collective endeavor to construct a more inclusive and diverse society, therefore


**Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that:** In unwavering pursuit of justice and inclusivity, hereby work to raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by the deaf and hard of hearing community and recognize the paramount importance of fostering accessible communication channels and ensuring equitable opportunities for all, regardless of hearing ability, and

**Be it further resolved that:** The we pledge to advocate for the implementation of policies and practices that guarantee equal rights, opportunities, and unfettered access to essential services. This commitment extends to ensuring that every individual, irrespective of their hearing ability, is treated equitably, and

**Be it further resolved that:** Creating an inclusive and empowering environment that enables the deaf and hard of hearing community to pursue their goals and aspirations without encountering discrimination or insurmountable barriers, is of the upmost importance, and

**Be it lastly resolved that:** A copy of this resolution be sent to  
Dr. Richard McCullough, President of Florida State University  
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Dr. Zduy Chu, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs

Dr. Brandon Bowden, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs  
Jackson Hitchcock, Student Body President  
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Engagement  
Andy Johnson, Program Director of Student Governance and Advocacy  
Amber Wagner, Director of the Office of Accessibility Services  
Josephine Sondossi, Accessibility Specialist and Sing Language Interpreter

DocuSigned by:  
  
371E726A9A924B6

9/25/2023 | 11:01 AM PDT

**OFFICIAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Senate President**

**SENATE VOTE:** Do not fill.

**PASSED:** Do not fill.