

75th STUDENT SENATE LEGISLATION PACKET March 1, 2023

This legislation is up-to-date as of the publishing date. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to senateclerk.fsu@gmail.com.

In Unconquered Pride,

Sofia Binjaku
75th Student Senate Clerk
Florida State University

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- **Bill 20, Sponsored by Senator Dale (P):** A revision is made to the Student Body Statutes 802.9. To ban the purchase and use of plastic straws with A&S Monies. This will be in addition to the existing ban on the purchase of disposable plastic water bottles.
- **Bill 24, Sponsored by Senator Casiple (P):** To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.
- **Bill 25, Sponsored by Senator Casiple (P):** To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.
- **Bill 26, Sponsored by Senator Casiple (P):** To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.
- **Bill 27, Sponsored by Senator Bettley (P):** To support upcoming social events for the Veteran Student Union that will allow them to better serve the student body and veterans.
- **Bill 29, Sponsored by Senator Folwell (P):** This bill corrects an error in Bill 9 which made the Assistant Directors of Institutes Senate-confirmed.
- **Bill 30, Sponsored by Senator Walerio (P):** This bill transfers \$6000 from the Women's Student Union Contractual Services account to the Women's Student Union Expense account. This will fund tote bags, events, movie rights, stickers, water bottles, yoga, a kickoff event, a banquet, and additional Women's History Month expenses.
- **Resolution 23, Sponsored by Senators McMahon and Crocker (P):** Per Student Body Statute 307.3(A) the Internal Affairs committee has created a resolution with recommended changes to the SGA application Process.
- **Resolution 24, Sponsored by Senators Jones and Salazar (P):** A more relevant document addressing recent accounts of antisemitism offers condolences to the Jewish community.
- **Resolution 25, Sponsored by Pedraja (P):** To promote Counseling & Psychological Services on campus and to support their resources for mental health.

- **Resolution 26, Sponsored by Senator Maglin (P):** This resolution outlines the need for and logistics surrounding a university-wide "Mental Health Day" to be implemented into Florida State University's academic calendar. The resolution serves as the catalyst to prompt administrative deliberations in response to this request.
- **Resolution 27, Sponsored by Senators Díaz and DuChêne (P):** Condemning Florida House Bill 999 and adding it to the Student Body Legislative Agenda as a bill for OGA to lobby against.



**75th STUDENT SENATE
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form**

Bill #: 19

Primary Sponsor: Barrett, Bettley

Co-Sponsor(s): Dale

Date: February 7th, 2023

Amount: \$132.93

From (account name): Senate Projects

To (account name): Sustainable Campus

Purpose & Description: To fund 7 U-Bike Locks as part of Sustainable Campus' bike rental program. These locks will be available to rent at no cost by students already owning bikes.

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
7	U-Bike Locks	\$18.99

Total: \$132.93

**75th STUDENT SENATE
Statute Revision, Addition or Proposed Constitutional
Amendment Form**

Senate Bill #: 20

Primary Sponsor: Dale
Co-Sponsor(s): Folwell, Salazar, Jones, Bettley, Chehaitli, Humberg
Date: 2/13/2023

Purpose & Description: A revision is made to the Student Body Statutes 802.9. To ban the purchase and use of plastic straws with A&S Monies

Statute Number(s): 802.9

Statute/Amendment Text

- 802.9 Disposable plastic water bottles and straws may not be purchased with A&S monies. In lieu of disposable plastic water bottles, RSO may not purchase other environmentally harmful materials such as Styrofoam.
- A. In the case of accommodating any student's needs, plastic straws may be purchased. Advisement from the University's Office of Disability Services is recommended in this scenario.
 - B. In the case of a natural disaster or any other unforeseen emergency in which sustainable methods of water distribution are hindered, plastic water bottles may be purchased.
 - C. This may be waived by a 2/3 vote of the committee.

75th STUDENT SENATE
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form

Bill #: 24

Primary Sponsor: Casiple

Co-Sponsor(s): Diaz

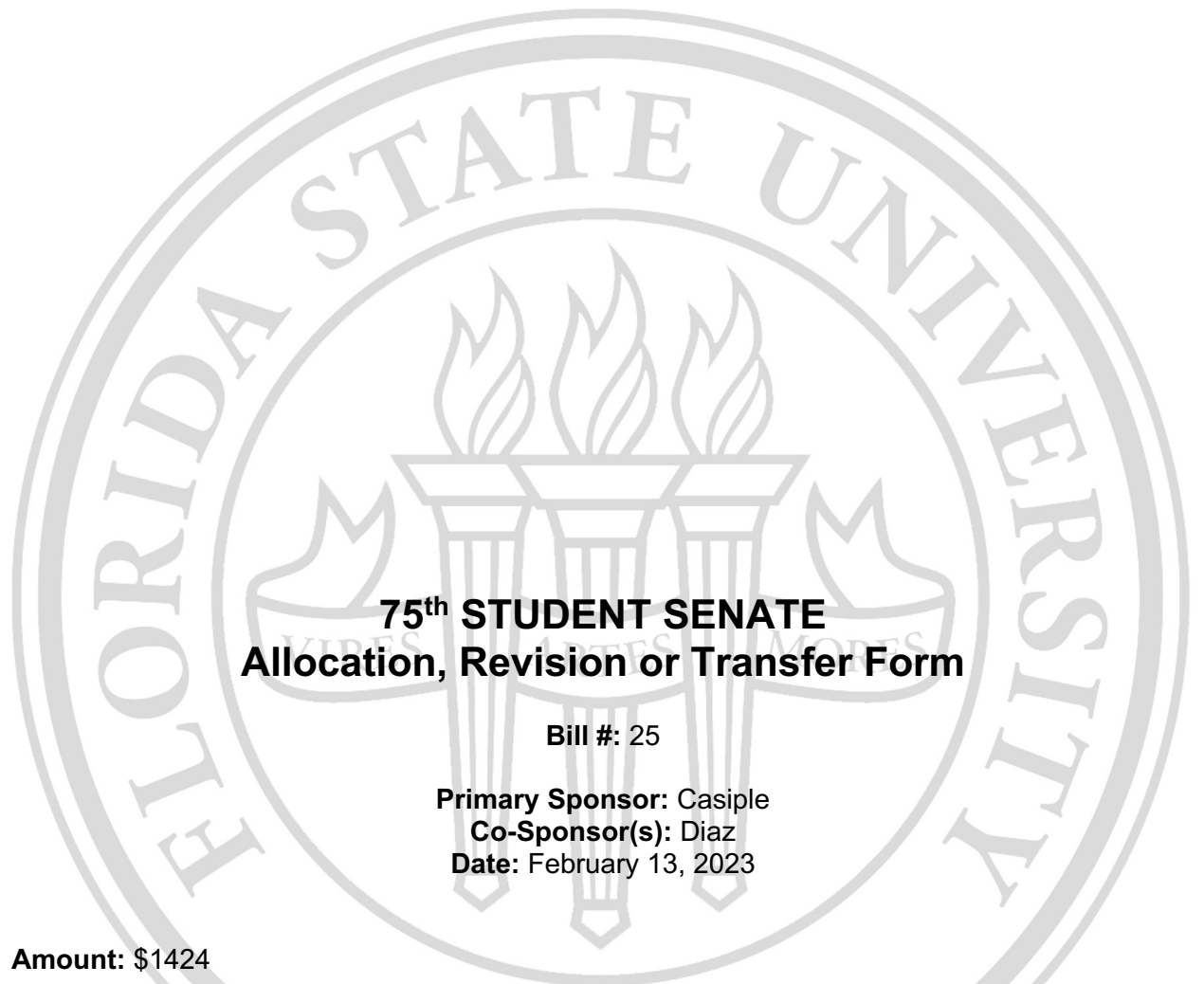
Date: February 13, 2023

Amount: \$245

From (account name): Asian American Student Union Expenses

To (account name): Asian American Student Union Contractual Services

Purpose & Description: To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.



**75th STUDENT SENATE
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form**

Bill #: 25

Primary Sponsor: Casiple

Co-Sponsor(s): Diaz

Date: February 13, 2023

Amount: \$1424

From (account name): Asian American Student Union Food

To (account name): Asian American Student Union Contractual Services

Purpose & Description: To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.

The seal of Florida State University is a large, light gray watermark in the background. It features a central torch with three flames, flanked by two smaller torches. Below the torches is a banner with the Latin motto "VIREM ARTES MORES". The words "FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY" are written in a circular path around the central elements, and the year "1851" is at the bottom.

**75th STUDENT SENATE
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form**

Bill #: 26

Primary Sponsor: Casiple

Co-Sponsor(s): Diaz

Date: February 13, 2023

Amount: \$781

From (account name): Asian American Student Union Clothing/Awards,

To (account name): Asian American Student Union Contractual Services

Purpose & Description: To transfer funds from the AASU account to fund an artist for AAMP'd. AMMP'd is an event held by AASU bringing Asian American artists to perform at the ASLC. This event is scheduled to happen March 23. This transfer is to allow AASU to fund their artist.



**75th STUDENT SENATE
Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form**

Bill #: 27

Primary Sponsor: Bettley

Date: February 10th, 2023

Amount: \$2500

From (account name): VSU Expense

To (account name): VSU Food

Purpose & Description: To support upcoming social events for the Veteran Student Union that will allow them to better serve the student body and veterans.

75th STUDENT SENATE

Statute Revision, Addition or Proposed Constitutional Amendment Form

Senate Bill #: 29

Primary Sponsor: Folwell

Co-Sponsor(s): [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Date: February 21, 2023

Purpose & Description: This bill corrects an error in Bill 9 which made the Assistant Directors of Institutes Senate-confirmed.

Statute Number(s): 303.1

Statute/Amendment Text:

303.1 Creation and Purpose

E. Leadership Structure

1. All Institutes shall have a Director and Assistant Director who shall be interviewed and selected by the outgoing Director and Assistant Director, unless otherwise specified in the individual Institute's statutes. ~~These individuals~~ The Director shall be sent as recommendation to the Student Body President and may be forwarded to the Student Senate pursuant to Section 304.3 (D).

75th STUDENT SENATE

Allocation, Revision or Transfer Form

Bill #: 30

Primary Sponsor: Walerio
Co-Sponsor(s): Click or tap here to enter text.
Date: February 27, 2023

Amount: \$6000

From (account name): WSU Contractual Services

To (account name): WSU Expense

Purpose & Description: To fund towards more tote bags, events, movie rights, stickers, water bottles, yoga, kickoff event and banquet for Women's History Month expenses in March hosted by Women's Student Union.

Itemized Expenditures:

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
200	Tote Bags	\$4
17	Events	\$80
1	Movie Rights	\$600
2000	Stickers	\$0.195
1	Union Board Yoga	\$25
1	Kickoff Event	\$190
1	Banquet	\$500
200	Water bottles	\$2.25
	Additional Expenses	\$1685

Total: \$6000



**75th STUDENT SENATE
Senate Resolution**

Resolution #: 23

Primary Sponsor(s): McMahon, Crocker

Co-Sponsor(s): Anderson, Adonis, Diaz, Dlugos, LoBianco, Roogow, Vollick

Date: February 20, 2023

Whereas: The Student Senate and Internal Affairs committee have long heard complaints regarding the format and questions asked on the Student Government Association (SGA) application, which hundreds of students use each year to apply for positions within our SGA, and

Whereas: Student Body Statute 307.3(A) states, “The Student Senate Internal Affairs Committee shall determine the format for the Student Government Association application. Once a format has been originally selected, the Internal Affairs Committee may propose any changes it deems necessary, which must pass the committee as well as the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to be formally adopted,” and

Whereas: Student Body Statute 307.3(C) states, “In changing or creating forms, the Internal Affairs committee shall seek the advice of the Attorney General, the Student Body Chief of Staff, the SGA Director of the Student Affairs and the Student Senate Program Assistant,” and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee met with the aforementioned individuals and deliberated on changes to the SGA Application on October 17, 2022, February 6, 2023, and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee voted on, and approved, the below-mentioned recommendations to the SGA application at its meeting held on February 20, 2023, and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee recommended that the format of the SGA application no longer be made using the Qualtrics platform, and instead be made available to all students via Survey Monkey, so that students may submit applications that can be processed through the appropriate channels within the Office of Student Governance and Advocacy (SG&A) and the SGA, including, but not limited to: the Assistant Director of SG&A, the Chief of Staff and Student Body President when appropriate, and then to the leadership of the Senate Internal Affairs committee, and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee recommended that all of the dropdown box options for SGA departments prospective candidates can apply to be deleted and replaced with the following options:

- Executive Branch
- Student Senate
- Judicial Branch
- Agencies (BSU, HLSU, etc.)
- Bureaus (OGA, IRHC, etc.)
- Institutes (FLI, TLI, D&I)
- Funding Boards (PAC, RTAC)
- Affiliated Projects
- Class Councils
- Elections Office
- Homecoming

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee recommended that all of the current questions on the SGA application below the “Personal Information” section be deleted and replaced with the following list of questions:

- What is the title of the position you are applying for? (Ex. Director, Secretary, Committee Member, Business Seat 2)
- What are your reasons for applying to this position and what are your goals?
- Explain a previous experience you have that makes you a strong candidate for position.
- Are you financially certified?

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee encourages entities wanting to ask more questions of their prospective candidates to continue the practice of requiring supplemental applications, which shall continue to be provided as an option on the SGA Application, and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee recommends that the final question on the application, which currently only reads “Additional Documents” be amended to read “Additional Documents and Supplemental Application, if required,” and

Whereas: The Internal Affairs committee recommends that the requirement for applicants to supply a letter of recommendation no longer be necessary, and that it shall be deleted as a question from the SGA application, and

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: The Student Senate approves the aforementioned changes to the Student Government Association Application, as recommended and approved by the Internal Affairs committee, and

Be it lastly resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:
Nimna Gabadage, Student Body President
Kenley Adams, Student Body Vice President
Quentin England, Student Body Chief of Staff
Daylyn Randolph, Student Body Deputy Chief of Staff
Jack Hitchcock, Executive Branch Administrative Director
Katie Russell, Director of Appointments
Maggie Gahan, Executive Branch Advisor
Khamisi Thorpe, Student Body Attorney General
Sam Diaz, Student Senate President
Jacalyn Butts, Assistant Director of Student Governance & Advocacy
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Engagement
Ben Young, SGA Webmaster

75th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 24

Primary Sponsor: Jones, Salazar

Co-Sponsor(s): White, Dale, Maglin, LoBianco, Folwell, McEntyre, Alvarez, Fineout, Chehaitli, Carter, St. Hillaire, Anandjiwala

Date: February 20th, 2023

Whereas: Antisemitism has no place on our campus, and

Whereas: Over the past several weeks, there were multiple attacks on Jewish communities across the U.S., including 2 Los Angeles shootings, one on February 16th and the other on February 15th, and

Whereas: That same day, February 15th, students defaced Florida State property with the remarks of an antisemitic conspiracy, only weeks after the campus had students tabling with a #yeisright sign the same week as an attempted arson of a new jersey synagogue and synagogue shooting in Jerusalem killing seven people, therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: The Florida State University Student Senate expresses its condolences to the Jewish community and reaffirms its commitment to creating an inclusive campus for students of all backgrounds, and

Be it further resolved that: The Florida State University Senate encourages university administration to take the necessary steps to reduce and condemn antisemitism on campus, offer support to the Jewish community and other marginalized groups on campus, and continue to seek to empower those often-unheard and unrepresented voices, therefore

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

Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs
Nimna Gabadage, Student Body President
Kenley Adams, Student Body Vice President
Kaitlynn Adams, Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Emily Boden, Jewish Student Union Director
Tori Carroll, Jewish Student Union Treasurer

75th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 25

Primary Sponsor: Pedraja

Co-Sponsor(s): Anderson, Barrett, Boisvert, Brown, Crusey, Dale, Gummerman, Jones, Lewis, Patel, White, Widmann

Date: February 22, 2023

Whereas: Counseling & Psychological Services at Florida State University provides students with confidential counseling services and mental health resources from licensed staff, and

Whereas: Counseling & Psychological Services provide weekly opportunities for Zoom, in-person, or self-paced Psychoeducation Workshops in order to educate students on topics such as mindfulness, anxiety, depression, resilience, and self-esteem, and

Whereas: Counseling & Psychological Services are available for crisis support, one-on-one sessions, couples sessions, group sessions, and walk-in services accessible on the second floor of the Askew Student Life Center Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: We encourage those who are seeking mental health resources to connect with Counseling & Psychological Services on campus by calling 850-644-TALK (8255) or visit their office located in 250 Askew Student Life Building, and

Be it further resolved that: We encourage the Student Government Association at Florida State University to help in the promotion of mental health awareness and continue to work with the Mental Health Council to further programing and publicize resources available for the student body, and

Be it further resolved that: We support and will continue to support the initiatives and mission of Counseling & Psychological Services at Florida State University in order to further the health and wellness of the student body and,

Be it lastly resolved that: a copy of this resolution be sent to:
Dr. Richard McCullough, President, Florida State University
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Carlos Gomez, Director of Counseling & Psychological Services
Nimna Gabadage, Student Body President
Kenley Adams, Student Body Vice President
Ashley Boudreaux, Interim Director of Mental Health Council

75th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 26

Primary Sponsor: Maglin

Co-Sponsor(s): Alvarez, Anandjiwala, Bettley, Boisvert, Brown, Burton, Carter, Casiple, Chehaitli, Crocker, Dale, Diaz, DuChêne, Fineout, Folwell, Humbert, Jones, Kariher, LoBianco, Mantilla, McMahon, Pruum, Salazar, Severy, St. Hilaire, Walerio, Widmann

Date: February 28th, 2023

Whereas: College students are inherently at a higher risk for the development of mental health complications due to the disruptions associated with attending college as well as exposure to new stressors, substances, and experiences. Additionally, by twenty-five years of age, seventy-

five percent of people who will develop a mental disorder have had their first onset (Kessler et al. 2005), and

Whereas: Prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the prevalence of Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) and Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) amongst undergraduate and graduate students were fifteen to twenty-five percent and twenty-five to twenty-eight percent respectively (Chirkov et al. 2020). After the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, those ranges of GAD and MDD prevalence increased to thirty-one to thirty-nine percent and thirty-two to forty-eight percent respectively (Soria et al. 2021). This increase in anxiety and depressive disorders is a result of the emotional turmoil, isolation, and revocation of human experience caused by the pandemic, and

Whereas: The maintenance of mental health is necessary for student advancement, retention, and wellness. Florida State University offers a variety of mental health services, but awareness and utilization of these services lacks across the student population. A variety of circumstances can impede students' ability to utilize these services, thus its efficacy is not fully potentiated. Additionally, the number of students impacted by mental health issues severely outweighs the number of mental health professionals available, therefore initiatives that impact the entire student body should be considered to account for these limitations, and

Whereas: According to the Florida State University academic calendars, the Fall semesters typically consist of seventy-five (75) days of classes and three (3) recognized class cancellations. These cancellations are as follows: Labor Day (September 5th), Veteran's Day (November 11th), and Thanksgiving Break (November 23rd-27th). The Spring semesters typically consist of seventy-nine (79) days of classes and two (2) recognized class cancellations. These cancellations are as follows: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 16th) and Spring Break (March 13th-17th), and

Whereas: During the Spring semesters, the first recognized class cancellation typically occurs within the first two (2) weeks of classes. Thus, there are forty (40) consecutive school days without reprieve, increasing the likelihood for mental and academic burnout during this period, and

Whereas: The implementation of one additional recognized class cancellation into Florida State University's academic calendar to be designated as a university-wide "Mental Health Day", and to be decided by the appropriate administrative staff, during which all classes cease for undergraduate, graduate, and faculty populations would provide directly observable benefits to student and faculty mental health, and

Whereas: The intention of this day is to prompt a university-wide appreciation and advocacy for mental health. Class cancellation removes academic pressure as a stressor from undergraduate and graduate students' lives and allows students and faculty an opportunity to address any outstanding mental, personal, or familial issues, and

Whereas: This day would not prompt university-wide closure, as transportation services, dining locations, student spaces (Student Union, Campus Recreation facilities, etc.), the libraries, and administrative staff would continue scheduled operation, and

Whereas: Amendments to the official Florida State University academic calendar cannot take effect until at least a year after the change is enacted, thus all teaching faculty would receive

ample time and notification to adjust Spring teaching curriculums in response to the selected “Mental Health Day”, and

Whereas: Florida State University’s Panama City campus follows the academic calendar established by Florida State University’s Tallahassee administration, so the undergraduate, graduate, and faculty populations would cease courses held on the selected day, and

Whereas: Any changes to the official Florida State University academic calendar must be communicated with the appropriate administration at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University via the Registrar offices to account for the students at both universities within the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering. The Registrar offices of both Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University meet annually to accommodate the needs of the College of Engineering and account for any changes to each university’s schedule. The implementation of this university-wide “Mental Health Day” will need to be communicated between the Registrar offices so that courses for undergraduate, graduate and faculty populations within the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering are effectively canceled on the selected day, and

Whereas: The professional graduate programs within the Colleges of Law and Medicine operate under academic calendars that differ from the general undergraduate and graduate populations, thus it shall be up to the discretion of the administration within these programs and the university Registrar office to determine if annual participation in the university-wide “Mental Health Day” is appropriate, and

Whereas: As Florida State University’s International Program campuses operate under a separate academic calendar and administrative jurisdiction from the Tallahassee and Panama City campuses, therefore these programs are exempt from this change, and

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: This body strongly encourages the appropriate Florida State University administrative offices to deliberate this request and consider the implementation of a university-wide “Mental Health Day” which would produce observable, tangible benefits to overall student mental health at this University, and

Be it further resolved that: In addition to removing academia as a stressor from students’ lives, this additional class cancellation produces an excellent opportunity for wellness-based programming to take place on the selected day. Potential programming opportunities on the selected day would center around mental health awareness, appreciation, and de-stigmatization. Entities within Florida State University’s Student Government Association (i.e., Identity-Based Agencies, the Bureaus, the Executive Branch, etc.) and a variety of Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) may work in conjunction with other facets of student life to generate programming which would ultimately generate a larger sense of community on both Panama City and Tallahassee campuses, and

Be it further resolved that: The mission of the Mental Health Council at Florida State University is to “empower students with mental health resources through de-stigmatization, community involvement, and advocacy” (Student Body Statutes, 915.1.C.). As the intention surrounding programming for this “Mental Health Day” aligns with the purposes outlined in the Florida State University Student Body Statutes, primary organization of events, initiatives, and programs will be annually led by the Mental Health Council, and

Be it further resolved that: This body urges Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's Student Government Association to meet with their appropriate administration to begin processes to enact their own campus-wide mental health day to be determined in conjunction with Florida State University's administration to account for the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical students within the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering. If a "Mental Health Day" is held on the same day between Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, then logistical concerns regarding the College of Engineering will cease, as the College will directly follow the changes to the academic calendars. Additionally, if enacted on Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's campus, then Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's and Florida State University's Student Government Associations can increase overall communication and accountability to annually work together to plan events and initiatives that will bring the two universities together to appreciate and advocate for mental health on the selected day, and

Be it further resolved that: In the event that Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University cannot implement their own "Mental Health Day" that is held in conjunction with Florida State University, the students within the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering are up to the discretion of appropriate academic administrators to decide if the university-wide class cancellation is appropriate. If this is the case, mental-health-based programming will still be held at the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering campus to promote mental health resources, awareness, and advocacy for these undergraduate and graduate students, and

Be it further resolved that: Student Senator, Isaiah Long, representing the Student Government Council at Florida State University's Panama City campus has written a statement on behalf of the Student Government Council's perspective on this initiative which reads: "Members of the Florida State University Student Government Association Senate, I am writing to express the support of the FSU Panama City Student Government Council for the Mental Health Day resolution. We believe that mental health is a critical component of overall well-being, and that prioritizing mental health awareness and resources is essential to ensuring the success and happiness of our student body. As a branch of the larger FSU community, we recognize the importance of taking action to promote mental health, particularly considering the challenges and stresses faced by students in today's world. We believe that dedicating a day to mental health awareness and education would be a valuable step in this direction. We appreciate the efforts of the FSU Student Senate in advocating for this important issue and urge you to continue to prioritize the well-being of our fellow students. I additionally, encourage the FSU Student Senate to offer Zoom accommodations for future matters of FSU Panama City. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of any assistance on this matter. Go Noles, Isaiah Long, Senator, 41st Student Government Council, Florida State University Panama City", and

Be it further resolved that: If implemented, the Mental Health Council in conjunction with other facets of student life will draft a contingency plan to be completed prior to the Spring of 2024 which would outline the logistics, funding allocations, events, and ideas for future Student Government Association, Registered Student Organizations, and administrative leaders to reference annually, and

Be it further resolved that: The implementation of this day emphasizes the value that Florida State University administration places on its students' overall health, both physical and mental. This initiative will create a longstanding legacy of community, understanding, and academic success at Florida State University in years to come.

Therefore, be it further resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:

Dr. Richard McCullough, President of Florida State University
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Janet Kistner, Vice President for Faculty Development
Dr. Kim Barber, University Registrar at Florida State University
Dr. Angela L. Chong, J.D., Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Zduy Peter Chu, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. LaToya Stackhouse, EdD., Director of Student Affairs, Florida State University's Panama City Campus
Kristal Greaves, Student Activities Coordinator at Florida State University's Panama City Campus
Lucy Rodriguez, Student Engagement Coordinator at Florida State University's Panama City Campus
Michael McLaughlin, LCSW, Mental Health Specialist at Florida State University's Panama City Campus
Dr. Mark Riley, Dean of the Graduate Schools
Dr. Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry, Associate Dean of the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering
Dr. Carlos J. Gomez, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Governance and Advocacy
Jacalyn Butts, Assistant Director of Student Governance and Advocacy
Ninma Gabadage, Student Body President of Florida State University
Kenley Adams, Student Body Vice President of Florida State University
Sam Diaz, President of the 75th Student Senate at Florida State University
Patrick DuChêne, Pro-Tempore of the 75th Student Senate at Florida State University
Daniel Muniz, Director of Student Wellness for the Executive Cabinet
Tyler Tice, President of Panama City's Student Government Council
Luis Basualdo, Speaker of the 31st Congress of Graduate Students
Elijah Hooks, Student Senator at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Jeffrey Francis, Student Body Vice President-Elect at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Ashley Boudreaux, Interim Executive Director of Florida State University's Mental Health Council

75th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 27

Primary Sponsor: Diaz, DuChêne

Co-Sponsor(s): Bettley, Boisvert, Brown, Carter, Casiple, Chehaitli, Dale, Fineout, Kariher, Lewis, LoBianco, Maglin, Mantilla, McEntyre, McMahon, Patel-Qadir, Rivers, Severy, Walerio, Widmann

Date: February 28, 2023

Whereas: The mission of the Student Government Association (SGA) is to provide FSU students with representation, services, and advocacy within the university structure. The SGA

provides quality leadership for, and accountability to, its constituency by recognizing that strength arises from diversity, engagement, and dialogue, and

Whereas: Diversity, equity, and inclusion are all central pillars of a modern, world-class education in the 21st century, and

Whereas: Through their rhetoric, political leaders in the State of Florida have, for months, attacked, downplayed, and belittled the importance and impact that diversity, equity, and inclusion have had in our society, and

Whereas: State Representative Alex Andrade has filed HB 999 in the Florida House of Representatives, which would block Florida State University's ability to "expend any funds, regardless of source" on efforts to "promote, support, or maintain any programs or campus activities that ... espouse diversity, equity, and inclusion or Critical Race Theory rhetoric," and

Whereas: This provision in the proposed legislation has the potential to wholly dismantle entities promoted by Florida State University and this Student Government Association, which have been the backbone of student life for decades, including the Center for Leadership & Social Change, CARE, the RISE Office, and the Student Government agencies, including the Asian American Student Union, Black Student Union, Hispanic/Latinx Student Union, Jewish Student Union, Pride Student Union, Veterans Student Union, and Women's Student Union, and

Whereas: This erasure would constitute an unprecedented attack on the minority communities served by these entities, and would be a shameful step backwards in our efforts to form a united community and Student Body, and

Whereas: This bill would also overhaul the educational standards for general education courses by suppressing more nuanced views of events in American history while promoting ethnocentric "philosophical underpinnings of Western civilization," and

Whereas: This bill would take steps toward prohibiting state universities from offering majors or minors in the fields of "critical race theory, gender studies, or intersectionality, or any derivative major or minor of these belief systems," and

Whereas: The changes made in the bill to the faculty hiring and tenure review process further weaken academic freedom in Florida by threatening professors and the curricula they teach by allowing for tenure review "at any time with cause," and

Whereas: HB 999 specifically targets the Florida State University's Institute of Politics (IOP) by removing references to the Institute's mission to "nurture a greater awareness of and passion for public service and politics" and to "provide students with an opportunity to be politically active and civically engaged" erode the purpose of the Institute, and

Whereas: The Institute of Politics is further made weaker in its purpose by removing its stated intent to provide fellowships and internships to students interested in non-profit and community organizations, and strictly limits IOP fellows to pursue internships in government through its programming, and

Whereas: Student Body Statute 908.7(B) allows for the Student Senate to amend the Student Body Legislative Agenda in conjunction with the Office of Governmental Affairs (OGA), therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fifth Student Senate at Florida State University that: The Student Senate, in its efforts to live up to the Student Government's motto of promoting "unity and diversity," condemns House Bill 999, as proposed in the 2023 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature, in the strongest possible terms, and

Be it further resolved that: Pursuant to Student Body Statute 908.7(B), the 75th Student Senate hereby amends the 2023 Student Body Legislative Agenda by stating its strong and steadfast opposition to HB 999 for the aforementioned reasons, and

Be it further resolved that: In line with Resolution 15 of the 75th Student Senate, the Senate reiterates its opinion that higher education is an opportunity for interested students to pursue academia in a way that is expansive and exploratory in nature, and thus condemns any attempts to limit instruction of the following topics: critical race theory, gender studies, intersectionality, and the histories of minority groups, and

Be it further resolved that: As long as it is in operation, the Student Senate at Florida State University will always stand with marginalized communities at Florida State University, and with the entities across the breadth of this university that work tirelessly to support said communities, and

Be it lastly resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:
Trevor Schaettle, Legislative Aide to Representative Alex Andrade
Dr. Richard McCullough, President of Florida State University
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs at Florida State University
Dr. Brandon Bowden, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Florida State University
Dr. Felicia Williams, Director of Student Engagement at Florida State University
Clay Ingram, Chief Legislative Affairs Officer of Florida State University
Nimna Gabadage, Student Body President at Florida State University
Kenley Adams, Student Body Vice President at Florida State University
The Executive Cabinet of the Florida State University Student Government Association
The Executive Agency Directors of the Florida State University Student Government Association
The Board of Directors of the Office of Governmental Affairs at Florida State University