



75th Student Senate

Student Life Committee Committee

Wednesday, 28th June 2023 at 5:00pm | Zoom ID: 986 4178 1288

Call to Order: 5:00pm

Members Present: Chair Pedraja, Senator Staveski, Senator Kerley, Senator Shah, Senator Schwartz

Members Tardy: Senator Sparling

Members Absent: Senator Garrison, Vice Chair Arellano

Guests: President Cofer

Land Acknowledgement: The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people. We recognize this land remains scarred by the histories and ongoing legacies of settlers- colonial violence, dispossession, and removal. In spite of all this, and with tremendous resilience, these Indigenous Nations have remained deeply connected to this territory, to their families, to their communities, and to their cultural ways of life. We recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land and extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.

Announcements:

- Chair Pedraja: I will now be resigning my chairship to President Cofer so I can present Resolution 50 with Senator Hellman.
- Members of the Public
 - None

Committee Business:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Resolution #50 Sponsored by Senator sellman, Chair Pedraja (P), Vice Chair Arellano, Senator Kerley, Vice Chair Patel, Chair White (Co)**
 - Opening Statement (5 minutes):
 - Chair Pedraja: Good afternoon, student life. This resolution basically highlights and remembers and recognizes the 4th of July as Independence Day. Let me tell you a little story, so when I was a kid, my dad was getting his citizenship, and I remember I was 5 years old. He was studying for the civic test that you have to take for your citizenship because he was immigrating from the Philippines. I remember sitting there in the car with him, listening to all the questions and answers. That really, really got me super interested and I knew a lot about what the government does. You know, the three branches of government I could cite and it just really made me proud to see my dad finally get his citizenship and passed the test and swearing in. There are so many people out there that look to America as a shining hope in a world There's more opportunity in what he saw in America and that's why my parents moved here back in '98. So, this is just us celebrating the fact that it's the 4th of July. You know, there's barbecues and fireworks, which is pretty awesome. But it's more important to look and kind of have that personal reflection of what this country means to us and how we can move forward in empowering different individuals and celebrating. Hellman, you got anything?
 - Senator Hellman: Yeah, I do. Just like you said. Yeah, there's the fireworks and the barbecues, but the holiday is not just about that. It's a

time for citizens across the country to come together in celebration. We foster a sense of unity and pride in our heritage as Americans. It really allows us to reflect on the sacrifices that were made by our forefathers who fought for our freedom. They laid the foundation for the democratic principles that we hold so close to us. So that's why we're presenting this resolution.

- Question Period:
 - None
- President Cofer extinguishes time and enters Pro/Con Debate.
- Pro/Con Debate:
 - Pro Debate (3 minutes)
 - Senator Shah: I would like to speak in favor of the resolution, just as someone who's third generation coming from an immigrant family from India where my grandparents made a lot of sacrifices to come to the United States. I think it's important, to observe our Independence Day, just because there were so many sacrifices made by many people to have a better opportunity, better lifestyle here. I like to speak in pro of this.
 - Con Debate (3 minutes)
 - None
- Senator Staveski moves to call the question, Senator Schwarts seconds, no objections
- Closing Statement:
 - Chair Pedraja: Thank you so much for hearing out our resolution today and we look forward to seeing how y'all feel about it.
- Vote:
 - Yes: 5
 - No: **0**
 - Abstentions: **0**
- **RESULT: RESOLUTION #50 PASSES**
 - President Cofer: Congratulations to the sponsors. I am resign the chairship back to the Chair.
- **Resolution #51 Sponsored by Senator A. White (P)**
 - **RESULT: RESOLUTION #51 TABLED**

Unfinished Business:

- None

Closing Announcements:

- Chair Pedraja: Thank you so much for coming and we look forward to seeing Resolution 50 on the floor.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12th July 2023 at 5:00pm on Zoom

Adjourned: 5:11 pm

Signed,

Edward Pedraja
Chair of the Student Life Committee