STUDENT SENATE LAW 2016-108

TITLE: Amendment to the Student Body Constitution Article I

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SPONSORS: Senate Executive Board

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court decision, "Interpretation of The University of Florida Constitution: Section 4 of Article VIII," ruled the constitutional amendment decided in the Spring 2014 elections that would update the anti-discrimination policy to include "genetic information" did not reach the mandated voter threshold; and,

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 4 of the University of Florida Student Body Constitution currently states that, "Student Government nor any organization that receives funds shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, veteran status or any other classification as provided by law."; and,

WHEREAS, the Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policies of the Regulations of the University of Florida state that, "The University is committed to nondiscrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliation, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act."; and,

WHEREAS, there is an inconsistency between the Non-Discrimination Policies of the University of Florida and the University of Florida Student Body Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Student Activities and Involvement requires all student organizations to comply with the University of Florida Anti-Discrimination Policy; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that an amendment shall be placed on the Spring 2017 ballot by the Supervisor of Elections that reads: "Should the Student Body Constitution be updated and amended to reflect the University of Florida's anti-discrimination policy and read in part, Article I, Section 4, "Student Government and any organization that receives funds shall be in full compliance with all federal and state nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws, orders, and regulations and shall adhere to University of Florida nondiscrimination policies?""
Proviso: A copy of this bill will be sent to the Supervisor of Elections and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Jenny Clements
Senate President

Susan Webster
Student Body President

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Vice President for Student Affairs