

STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2018-1000

TITLE: Resolution Recognizing VENZA's and the Hispanic Student Association's continued efforts to spread awareness and fundraise through the #GATORSFORVZLA Campaign

AUTHOR (S): Senator Andrea Rangel

SPONSOR (S): Hispanic Student Association Vice President of Programming

David Enriquez, Senator Dylan Santalo, Senate President Ian Green, Senator

Maria Perez, Senator Angel Zavala, Senator Marcela Astudillo, VENZA

President Oreana Ramirez

WHEREAS, Venezuela has experienced difficult economic times characterized by shortages of basic goods and soaring inflation[i]; and,

WHEREAS, this crisis is a result of years of economic mismanagement, a corrupt business elite, and the increase of democratic political prisoners; and,

WHEREAS, under President Nicolas Maduro, Venezuela developed a Constitutional Assembly that supersedes the National Assembly, which has been led by opposition parties since last year and was the only branch of government not controlled by President Maduro[ii]; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of Latin American countries and the United States have denounced the Constitutional Assembly as unconstitutional and stated they will not recognize it[iii]; and,

WHEREAS, on October 30th, 2017, three leading Venezuelan opposition parties said they would not take part in this past December's municipal elections because they believed the electoral system is biased and corrupt[iv]; and,

WHEREAS, as a consequence, President Maduro and the Constitutional Assembly responded by blocking three of the country's most influential opposition parties to participate in next year's presidential election[v]; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of Venezuela's political and economic crisis, the Hispanic Student Association is working closely with the Venezuelan Student Association through the #GATORSFORVZLA campaign; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of #GATORSFORVZLA is to educate and create awareness about the tragedy Venezuela is going through, as well as, to collect supplies which will be sent to Venezuela[vi]; and,

WHEREAS, the Hispanic Student Association will be teaming up with the Venezuelan Student Association to hold a rally spreading awareness to the student body in mid-January; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the Hispanic Student Association and Venezuelan Student Association in their efforts in raising awareness and educating students about this issue.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the citizens of Venezuela that are affected by the current volatile conditions.



Ian Green
Senate President

1-10-18

Date

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Venezuelan Student Association President Oreana Ramirez, Hispanic Student Association President Robert Lemus, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Parrott, Dean of Students Heather White, & Multicultural and Diversity Affairs Director of Hispanic-Latino Affairs Gabe Lara

[i] <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-42304594>

[ii] <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/18/world/americas/venezuela-constituent-assembly-maduro.html>

[iii] <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-41094889>

[iv] <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-41812179>

[v] https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/3-opposition-parties-in-venezuela-blocked-from-elections/2017/12/20/e1064262-e5ea-11e7-927a-e72eac1e73b6_story.html?utm_term=.ca3333b7d2c3

[vi] <https://www.facebook.com/uf.vensa>