STUDENT SENATE BILL 2019-1048

TITLE: Resolution Supporting Additional Title IX and Sexual Assault Prevention Resources on the University of Florida Campus

AUTHORS: Rules & Ethics Chairwoman Abby Morris, Senator Audrey Wikan

SPONSORS: Senate President Libby Shaw, Senate President Pro-Tempore Emily Dunson, External Affairs Agency Head Emily Dempsey, Internal Affairs Agency Head Brett Oehrle, Allocations Chairwoman Katie Hernandez, Information & Communication Chairwoman Meryl Jones, Panhellenic President Julia Van de Bogart

WHEREAS, it is reported that 23.1% of women and 5.4% of men will “experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation” during their undergraduate careers on college campuses [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida administration provides support to victims of sexual assault and harassment through the Office of Title IX Compliance, Dean of Students Office, and University Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, the Office of Victim Services was established in 1993 by the University of Florida Police Department to provide a support system to anyone who became a victim of a crime while on the University of Florida campus, including victims of sexual assault and harassment [2]; and,

WHEREAS, GatorWell Health Promotion Services supports Sexual Trauma Interpersonal Violence Education to challenge cultural attitudes that interpersonal contribute to violence and promote healthy consensual relationships [3]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida Office of Title IX Compliance recently announced the creation of a student advisory board to collect feedback on Title IX resources on-campus [4]; and,

WHEREAS, student leaders have strived to address issues related to sexual assault on college campuses through bystander intervention training and support organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida Panhellenic Council oversees the Sister Support Program to open a dialogue on campus revolving around sexual assault, to provide a support system to the community, and empower women [5]; and,

WHEREAS, a need exists for additional Title IX and sexual assault prevention programs and resources on the University of Florida campus; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the establishment of a Title IX Advisory Committee by the Office of Title IX Compliance to help enhance student resources on campus.
THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate applauds the efforts of the Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council in addressing sexual assault and harassment within their respective communities.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages students to participate in the “2019 Campus Survey on Sexual Assault and Misconduct” to help the university administration assess current sexual assault prevention programs and resources on-campus.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate calls upon the university administration to continue to support and work with student leaders in developing new sexual assault prevention programs and resources.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President W. Kent Fuchs, Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. David Parrott, Provost Dr. Joseph Glover, Dean of Students Dr. Heather White, University Title IX Coordinator Dr. Russell Froman, Vice President of Human Resources Jodi Gentry, Panhellenic President Julia Van de Bogart, Interfraternity Council President Tyler Enright, Student Body President Ian Green, and Student Body President-Elect Michael Murphy.