

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2019-1065

TITLE: Resolution Celebrating Pride Month 2019 and LGBTQ+ Students

AUTHORS: LGBTQ+ Caucus Co-Leader Kristen Jackson, Senator Jackson Glover

SPONSORS: LGBTQ+ Caucus Co-Leader Austin Freedman, Pride Student Union President Nate Quinn, Senate President Libby Shaw, Minority Leader Ashley Grabowski, Senator Jonathan Gant, Senator Nick Meyer, Senator Anthony Portugues, Colin Solomon, Budget and Appropriations Chairman Cooper Brown, National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association President Josh Williams

WHEREAS, since 2009, the Executive Office of the United States has traditionally declared the month of June “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender” Month, but a deceleration has not been made since 2016 [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the month of June was selected because of the Stonewall riots which occurred in June of 1969 [2]; and,

WHEREAS, the month now serves as a time to celebrate the community and its history, and to honor those who came before; and,

WHEREAS, as of 2019, only 21 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity [3]; and,

WHEREAS, in Florida, there is no statewide law that prohibits discrimination against LGBTQ+ people in employment, housing, and public accommodations [4]; and,

WHEREAS, while no statewide protection laws exist, both the City of Gainesville and Alachua County have passed human rights ordinances that protect LGBTQ+ individuals [5][6]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida provides resources for those who need them within LGBTQ Affairs while fostering personal growth and community; and,

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ students, staff and faculty at the University of Florida continue to shape and leave a positive impact on our campus through individual work and within the several LGBTQ+ focused student organizations; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate proudly celebrates Pride Month and recognizes the significance that it has to the LGTBQ+ community.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the LGBTQ+ community in their ongoing fight for equality while celebrating the significant progress that the community has achieved.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate strives to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ students and acknowledges the disadvantages that they face every day as LGBTQ+ community members.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the student body to recognize the importance of Pride Month and to support LGBTQ+ members on campus at the University of Florida and beyond.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Nancy Chrystal-Green, Multicultural and Diversity Affairs Senior Director Will Atkins, LGBTQ Affairs Graduate Assistant Logan Nesor, Action SG Chairperson Annie Ortega, and External Affairs Chairperson Danielle Grosse.

[1] <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/commemorative-observations/pride.php>

[2] <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2017/06/02/why-lgbt-pride-month-june/363261001/>

[3] <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/can-you-be-fired-being-gay-answer-depends-largely-where-n962711>

[4] <https://www.eqfl.org/Discrimination>

[5] [https://ballotpedia.org/Gainesville_Transgender_Anti_Discrimination_Ordinance_Referendum_\(2009\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Gainesville_Transgender_Anti_Discrimination_Ordinance_Referendum_(2009))

[6] <https://www.eqfl.org/AlachuaHRO>