

STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2019-1002

TITLE: Honoring Virgil D. Hawkins Referendum Question

AUTHORS: Senator Mackintosh Joachim, Senator Daziah Scurry

SPONSORS: Black Student Union President Akil Reynolds, Pride Student Union President Nathan Quinn, UF Chapter of NAACP President Ashley Marceus, Senator Molishka Heriveaux, Senator Che John, Senator Michael Dormeus

Resolved, that the following question be placed on the ballot for the Spring 2019 general election:

Referendum Question:

In April 1949, Virgil D. Hawkins applied for admission to the UF College of Law. UF denied admission to Hawkins and five other African-American applicants in May of 1949 solely based on race. For nine years, Hawkins and his allies would fight Florida's Jim Crow laws, which racially segregated state universities, until they were ultimately victorious in the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1958, Hawkins withdrew his application to the UF College of Law in exchange for a Florida Supreme Court order desegregating UF's graduate and professional schools.

Should Student Government advocate for renaming the J. Wayne Reitz Union in honor of Virgil D. Hawkins?

YES NO