STUDENT SENATE BILL 2021-1002

TITLE: School Zone Safety Act

AUTHOR(S): Judiciary Chairman Franco Luis, Senate Majority Party Leader Blake Robinson, Senator Faith Allen


WHEREAS, on January 16th, 2021, Sophia Lambert, a sophomore year University of Florida student tragically lost her life in an accident that occurred at West University Avenue and Buckman Drive [1]; and,

WHEREAS, on December 9th, 2020, Margaret A. Paxton was also killed in a hit and run accident that occurred on West University Avenue [2]; and,

WHEREAS, there have been numerous calls by students demanding for action to be taken to prevent these horrible accidents from happening in the future [1]; and,

WHEREAS, under Florida law, “No school zone speed limit shall be more than 20 miles per hour in an urbanized area.” § 316.1895(5) Fla. Stat. (2020). [3]; and,

WHEREAS, thousands of students cross West University Avenue during and after school hours; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida announced it has begun conversations of pedestrian safety for students [1]; then,
THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the designation of a school zone from Northwest 13th Street to Gale Lemerand Drive on West University Avenue; and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate also supports the installation of solar-powered rapid flashing traffic beacons at the crosswalks to better indicate pedestrians from the Northwest 13th Street to Gale Lemerand Drive on West University Avenue; then,

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the efforts by the University in beginning discussions of pedestrian safety for students.

[1] https://www.alligator.org/article/2021/01/car-crash-on-university-avenue

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Associate Vice President & Dean of Students Heather White, UF Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Charlie Lane, and Vice President for Student Affairs D’Andra Mull