

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

SPONSOR(S): Student Body President Trevor Pope, Senate Pro-Tempore Gabi Zlatanoff, External Affairs Director Will Sandifer, Senator Jake Hagan, Rules & Ethics Chairwoman Annabelle Groux, Senator Kevin Trejos, Senator Aaron Arriaga, Senator Casey Mason, Senator Shannon Locascio, Senator Georgia Seacrest, Senator Aaron Lazar, Senate President Cooper Brown, Budget and Appropriation Chairwoman Sydney White, Senator Adeel Markatia, Senator Sarah Lorduy, Senator Jewelia Bradley, Senator Nagarajan Rajagopal, Senator Rebekah Shields, Senator Spencer Bober, Senator Olivia Potthast, Senator John Hazzard, Senator Anna Bernstein, Senator Hannah Kim, Senator Stephanie Kay Miller, Senator Jamison McAdams, Senator Thomas Driscoll, Senator Noah Fineberg, Senator Jason Scheuer, Senator Daniel Baez, Information and Communications Chairman David Kays, Senator Jadelyn Fleischer, Senator Catherine Giordano, Senator Kaitlyn Cullen, Senator Jeffrey Fondeur

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>

[2] <https://www.alligator.org/article/2020/12/uf-student-killed-in-wednesday-night-hit-and-run>

[3] [https://www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2011/0316.1895#:~:text=\(5\)%20A%20school%20zone%20speed,334.03](https://www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2011/0316.1895#:~:text=(5)%20A%20school%20zone%20speed,334.03).

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