

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2021-1040

TITLE: Resolution recognizing the COVID-19 Crisis in South Asia

AUTHOR(S): Senator Lakshay Goyal

SPONSORS: Senator Krish Talati, Senator Darren Peters, Senator Raisa Jafry, Senator Adeel Markatia

WHEREAS, since India's second wave of COVID-19 in April 2021, Johns Hopkins University has reported an estimated 419,000 deaths [1], however recent studies have estimated true death toll to be well over 3 million people [2];

WHEREAS, in the capital city of New Delhi, one death from COVID-19 was reported every five minutes, on a global scale, 1 of every 3 daily cases reported are from India [3];

WHEREAS, the infrastructure of the healthcare system in India and several other South Asian countries is collapsing due to the strain of the virus with some of the most affluent cities in the region, such as Delhi and Mumbai, being depleted of vital hospital resources;

WHEREAS, with cooperation from the Indian Student Association, we as the University of Florida Student Senate seek to inform the University of Florida regarding the ongoing COVID-19 crisis in India in order to offer any help or resources needed to alleviate the crisis;

WHEREAS, South Asian students at the University of Florida and their families are being directly affected by a surge of the pandemic in India so severe, that its bounds are even gripping South Asian communities overseas; and [4],

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate stands in solidarity with the region of South Asia in their dire time of crisis,

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the impact that the COVID-19 crisis has had on our South Asian students, and will do all in their power to aid the community as they recover from one of the deadliest crises to face South Asia.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Director of Asian Pacific Islander Desi Affairs Jack Nguyen, Asian American Student Union Presidents Gavin Leung and Julia Phan, Indian Student Association Presidents Shruti Labh and Samantha Nukala, Bangladeshi Student Association President Nabil Chowdhury, Pakistani Student Association Sakina Johar

[1] <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/region/india>

[2] <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/20/world/asia/india-covid-pandemic-excess-deaths.html>

[3] <https://globalnews.ca/news/7785122/india-covid-19-hospitals-record/>

[4] <https://will.illinois.edu/21stshow/story/indian-american-check-in>