

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2022-1005****TITLE: Resolution Condemning the ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill**

**AUTHOR(S):** Minority Party Leader Gabrielle Adekunle, Deputy Minority Party Leader Spencer Gorelick, Senator Oscar Santiago, Senator Cassie Urbenz, Senator Adrienne Weston

**SPONSOR(S):** Senator Grace Shoemaker, Senator Connor Panish, Senator Hiba Karim, Senator Savannah Partridge, Senator Faith Corbett, Senator Gabriela Montes, Senator Joshua Riklan, Senator Olivia Fernandez, Senator David Zepeda, Senator John Brinkman, Senator Sean Harkins, Senator Phoebe Funai, Senator Alex Aldazabal, Senator Tanner Thompson, Senator Shannon Locasio, Senator Mara Vaknin, Majority Party Leader Emily Pecora, Senator Aubrey Pearce, Senator Cassidy Verville, Senator Liam Antonszewski, Senator Max Durst, Senator Jacob Kanfer, Senator Jacey Cable, Senator Catherine Giordano

**WHEREAS**, Florida Bill HB 1557/SB 1834, widely known as the Don’t Say Gay Bill, was passed by the Florida House of Representatives [4]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Don’t Say Gay Bill would limit and prohibit discussion and curriculum relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) topics presented “in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards” [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, a proposed amendment to the bill, sponsored by State Representative Joe Harding, considered the authorization of teachers to disclose student gender and sexuality changes to parents after 6 weeks [3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the provisions within the Don’t Say Gay Bill hold malevolent implications on the social mobility and mental stability of many LGBTQ+ students and children across the state of Florida; and,

**WHEREAS**, organizations like the Pride Student Union (PSU) serve as an integral cornerstone of Student Activities and Involvement, striving to “provide and maintain an open, safe, and inclusive atmosphere for LGBT+ students and allies at the University of Florida” [5]; and,

**WHEREAS**, statistical estimations reveal that “one LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13–24 attempts suicide every 45 seconds in the U.S.” [6]; and,

**WHEREAS**, a protest entitled “Chomp Homophobia” was conducted on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in order to bring public awareness to the bill in question and bring about 130 LGBTQ+ affiliates and allies together in opposition of the bill [1]; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate condemns the authorship and queer-specific provisions within the Don't Say Gay Bill; and **THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate affirms the importance of diversity across the University of Florida, notably with gender and sexuality expression and orientation; and, **THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate reinforces their support of LGBTQ+ education and resources across and beyond the University of Florida.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Ron Desantis, University President Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Board of Trustees Chair Mori Hosseini, Chief Diversity Officer Marsha McGriff, Florida Speaker of the House Chris Sprowls, ,, State Senate President Wilton Simpson,*

[1] <https://www.alligator.org/article/2022/02/protests-dont-say-gay-bill>

[2]

<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName= h1557e1.docx &DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=1557&Session=2022>

[3] <https://www.mynews13.com/fl/orlando/news/2022/02/22/dont-say-gay-bill>

[4] <https://www.npr.org/2022/02/24/1082969036/florida-house-passes-controversial-measure-dubbed-the-dont-say-gay-bill-by-criti>

[5] <http://plaza.ufl.edu/jsoto19/PSU/index.html>

[6] <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/research-briefs/estimate-of-how-often-lgbtq-youth-attempt-suicide-in-the-u-s/>

  
Elizabeth Hartzog  
Senate President

02/11/22  
Date