

Student Senate

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STUDENT SENATE BILL 2022-1044

TITLE: Resolution Acknowledging the Impact of Hurricane Ian in Southwest Florida

AUTHOR(S): Senator Hana Ali, Senator Mohammed Faisal, Senate Pro-Tempore Catherine Giordano

SPONSORS: Minority Party Leader Faith Corbett, Deputy Minority Leader Gabriela Montes, Senator Anjali Natarajan, Senator Cassie Urbenz, Senator Nathan McGinnis, Senator Danny Wolcott, Senator Navya Nair, Senator Joaquin Marcelino, Senator Jonathan Stephens, Senator Evan Asuncion, Senator Pari Patel, Senator Savannah Partridge, Senator Jorge R. Perez, Senator Naeliz Lopez, Senator Connor Panish, Senator Lilliana Clark, Senator Sean Harkins, Senator John Rassel, Senator Julia Seifer, Senate President Olivia Green, Senator Phoebe Funai, Majority Party Leader Blake Cox, Member-at-Large Mara Vaknin, Senator Ethan Ghozali, Senator Madi Koukos, Senator Aaron Amster, Senator Alec Unland, Senator Justin Lanzuela, Senator Shelby Schultz, Senator Haley Rubin, Senator Isabel Ponce, Senator John Brinkman, Senator Max Durst, Senate Garrett Joesphson, Senator Jacey Cable, Senator Raymond Cole Hautamaki, Senator Sidney Ruedas, Senator Joah Levine, Senator Presley Baesler, Senator Saketh Damera, Senator Alex Aldazabal, Senator Audrey Myrs, Senator Brendan Klingerman, Senator Mason Solomon, Senator Nyla Pierre, Senator Jacob Kanfer, Senator Mia Imbrigiotta, Member-at-Large Ana Carolina Troncoso, Senator Gretchen Howard

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian hit Southwest Florida as a Category 4 hurricane [1]; and,

WHEREAS, massive storm surges, strong winds, and heavy rain affected densely populated areas, including as Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel Island, Naples, Port Charlotte, and their surrounding areas [2]; and,

WHEREAS, at least 119 deaths have been recorded in the state of Florida due to the hurricane's strong impacts [3]; and,

WHEREAS, in the Lee County area, around 52 people died as a result of storm surges, which was the leading cause of death [4]; and,

WHEREAS, total flood and wind losses from Hurricane Ian are estimated to range from \$41 billion to \$74 billion [5]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida provides resources to students affected by Hurricane Ian, such as Aid-a-Gator and the Hitchcock Field and Fork Pantry, for students facing financial hardships during this unprecedented time [6]; and,

WHEREAS, more than 40 UF/IFAS Extension agents served in disaster call centers in Hurricane Ian, providing water, non-perishable food items, and agriculture support to individuals impacted by the storm in Southwest Florida [6]; and,

WHEREAS, various organizations are actively seeking donations to help those affected by Hurricane Ian, such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) [7]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes that Southwest Florida is in a detrimental state following the landfall of Hurricane Ian; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes that many lives were affected by Hurricane Ian and that we commemorate those that were lost; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages faculty and student leaders to do everything within their power to aid those struggling with the aftermath of Hurricane Ian.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Ron DeSantis, Mayor Kevin B. Anderson, University President Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Board of Trustees Chair Mori Hosseini, Chief Diversity Officer Marsha McGriff, Vice President for Student Life Dr. Heather White, and University Interim Dean of Students Jonathan Yorkowitz, Campus Assistance and Resources for Empowerment (CARE) Assistant Dean and Director Nadene Reynolds.

[1] <https://www.npr.org/2022/09/29/1126022483/hurricane-ian-slammed-southwest-florida>

[2] <https://www.news-press.com/story/entertainment/2022/10/06/hurricane-ian-fort-myers-beach-sanibel-matlacha-north-captiva-pine-island-restaurants-standing/8194866001/>

[3] <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/07/us/hurricane-ian-victims-drowned.html>

[4] <https://www.news-press.com/story/news/local/2022/10/12/hurricane-ian-27-who-died-lee-and-hendry-counties-identified/10479458002/>

[5] <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brendarichardson/2022/10/06/total-flood-and-wind-losses-from-hurricane-ian-range-from-41-billion-to-70-billion/?sh=1f359812a92d>

[6]

<https://news.ufl.edu/2022/10/hurricane-recovery/#:~:text=At%20least%2040%20UF%2FIFAS,to%20crops%20and%20ornamental%20plants>.

[7] <https://www.wafb.com/2022/10/03/what-you-should-know-before-donating-hurricane-ian-relief/>

Olivia Green

10/25/2022

Olivia Green
Senate President

Date