

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1001

TITLE: Gender Neutral Wording Amendment to the Student Body Constitution

AUTHORS: LGBTQ+ Caucus Chair Oscar Santiago Perez

SPONSORS: Senator Jonathan C. Stephens, Senator John Rassel, Senator Cassie Urbenz, Deputy Minority Party Leader Gabriela Montes, Senator Connor Panish

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 5 of the Student Body Constitution reads “There shall be a Student Senate President who shall act as the chief administrative officer of the legislative branch and presiding officer of the Student Senate and a Student Senate Pro Tempore who shall assist the Student Senate President in the performance of his/her duties. The Student Senate President and the Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall be elected by the Senate from among its members according to its Rules and Procedures.”; and,

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 7(b) of the Student Body Constitution states that the Student Body Vice President shall “Exercise the powers and duties of the Student Body President in his/her absence;” and,

WHEREAS, these sections of the Constitution contain gendered language; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate has worked to ensure its governing documents are updated with gender neutral language; then,

LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA that the following amendment to Article III, Section 5 of the Student Body Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors for ratification or rejection at the general election occurring in the Spring semester of 2023:

Delete “his/her duties.” and insert “their duties.”

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA that the following amendment to Article IV, Section 7(b) of the Student Body Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors for ratification or rejection at the general election occurring in the Spring semester of 2023:

Delete: “his/her absence;” and insert: “their absence;”

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the following statement be placed on the ballot:

Should the Student Body Constitution be amended to remove references to gendered language within the Constitution and replace instances of “his/her” within the Constitution to be changed with “their”?