

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1118

TITLE: Resolution Supporting the Creation of an Institute of Asian Pacific Islander and Desi Culture.

AUTHOR(S): Senator Saketh Damera, Senator Monish Vijayaraghavan

SPONSORS: Pan-Asian Caucus Chairperson Joaquin R.C. Marcelino, Member-at-Large Johnny Liu, Senator Laurie Wang, Senator Samantha Kinggard, Senator Elsa Brantmeyer, Information & Communications Chairman Ethan Ghozali, Senator Julia Seifer, Senator Ayesha Khuddus, Senator Owen Lekebusch, Minority Party Leader Bronson Allemand, Senator Matthew Reich, Senator Bryan Garcia-Ramos, Senator Chalisa Budhai, Senator Anamika Naidu, Senator Nima Aria, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Raj Mia, Senator Christian Rodriguez, Senator Asif Islam, Senator Kavya Polavarapu, and Majority Party Leader Simone Liang

WHEREAS, In 1994, Hispanic and Latinx students at the University of Florida petitioned administration for their own space on campus, which ultimately resulted in the formation of the Institute for Hispanic-Latinx Cultures, or La Casita [1]; and,

WHEREAS, In 1971, the Black Student Union successfully advocated for the implementation of a space for supportive resources for the Black Community, ultimately resulting in the University of Florida's administration to establish the Institute of Black Culture (IBC) [2]; and,

WHEREAS, From the most recently provided (Fall 2020) metrics, the University of Florida possesses an undergraduate student body that is 9.72% Asian and a Graduate and Professional student body that is 5.95% Asian [3]; and,

WHEREAS, in the early 1990's, Asian students fought for increased resources supporting APIDA students on campus, which garnered support from administration for the implementation of a the APIDA office [4]; and,

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Islander Desi Student Engagement (APIDSE) provides resources to University of Florida students to "enhance and promote intellectual and personal growth of students to explore and define their complex cultural and intersectional identities. [5]; and,

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Islander and Desi students are an essential part of the University of Florida campus and are deserving of an institute to support the community.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate

recognizes the need for an Institute of Asian Pacific Islander and Desi Culture.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports efforts to implement an institute of APID culture on the University of Florida campus and urges administration to take action.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, Provost Joe Glover, Chief Diversity Officer Marsha McGriff, Asian American Student Union Presidents, Indian Student Association Presidents, Pakistani Student Association President, and Bangladeshi Student Association President.

[1] <https://hispanicalatinoaffairs.multicultural.ufl.edu/about/history/>

[2] <https://institutes.multicultural.ufl.edu/the-ibc/>

[3] <https://cdo.ufl.edu/strategy/metrics/>

[4] <https://multicultural.ufl.edu/apida-history/>

[4] <https://telanganatoday.com/viral-video-of-indian-american-student-getting-bullied-is-raging-the-internet>

[5] <https://apia.multicultural.ufl.edu/>


Oscar Santiago Perez
Senate President

8/1/23
Date