

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1254**

**TITLE: Resolution Advocating for the University of Florida to Mandate At Least One Disability Resource Center Notetaker Per Non-Recorded Class**

**AUTHOR: Senator Julia Seifer**

**SPONSORS: Senate President Oscar Santiago Perez, Judiciary Chair Jonathan C. Stephens, Judiciary Vice-Chair Joaquin R.C. Marcelino, Majority Party Leader Nathaniel Pelton, Deputy Majority Party Leader Chalisa Budhai, Senator Saketh Damera, Senator Matthew Reich, Senator Laurie Wang, Senator John Lin**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida is committed to providing equal educational opportunities and access to all students, including those with disabilities; and,

**WHEREAS**, students with disabilities may require accommodations such as note-taking support to fully participate in and benefit from their classes; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at the University of Florida offers essential services, including note-taking assistance, to students with disabilities who require this accommodation [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, some professors may choose not to release recordings of their lectures, making comprehensive and accurate note-taking crucial for students who rely on these notes for learning and studying; and,

**WHEREAS**, one DRC notetaker is typically selected, and compensated, per class if a student in that class signs up for Direct Note Services (DNS) through the DRC, but this does not account for multiple students per class requesting DNS, or if that student requests DNS later into the semester and is unable to get the notes from the prior classes; and,

**WHEREAS**, mandating at least one student DRC notetaker per class in which the professor does not release recordings can ensure that students with disabilities have access to high-quality notes, thus promoting equity and inclusivity in the learning environment; and,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the value of mandating at least one DRC notetaker per class when the professor chooses not to release recordings in order to support students with disabilities, ensuring that all students have equitable access to necessary accommodations; and,

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the fundamental importance of providing equal educational opportunities and access to all students, regardless of their disability status; and,

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the University of Florida administration to work with the Disability Resource Center to establish a policy that mandates at least one DRC notetaker per non-recorded class in order to enhance the educational experiences of students with disabilities.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the University of Florida President Ben Sasse, the University of Florida Disability Resource Center Director Jenna Gonzalez, Disability Ambassadors Co-Presidents Connor Panish and Natalie Fermin, Delta Alpha Pi, and the Disability Affairs Cabinet Director Miranda Maingot.*

[1] <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodations/note-services/>