

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1014

TITLE: Resolution in Support of Integrating Climate Change Education into the University of Florida Curriculum

AUTHOR(S): Senator Raj Mia

SPONSOR(S): Green Caucus Chair Zoe Richter, Senator Vivian Phung, Senator Elizabeth Insuasti, Minority Party Leader Nathaniel Pelton, Senator Aaron Rubaii, Senator Laurie Wang, Senator Gabriela Prieto, Senator Aleah Henley, Senator Jonathan Bedine, Senator Laurie Wang, Senate President Pro Tempore Saketh Damera, Senator Aaron Amster, Senator Sarah Hoffer, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Arturo Zárrate

WHEREAS, climate change is a pressing global issue that poses significant challenges to the sustainability of our planet and its ecosystems[1]; and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida has a responsibility to prepare its students for a changing world and equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to address this issue[2]; and

WHEREAS, climate change affects virtually every field of study and profession, and therefore, every student at the University of Florida will be impacted by its effects[3]; and

WHEREAS, integrating climate change education into the university curriculum would not only provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the science of climate change, its impacts, and potential solutions, but would also foster critical thinking skills and promote sustainability-oriented values and practices; and

WHEREAS, numerous universities and institutions across the world have already taken steps to integrate climate change education into their curricula, and have demonstrated the positive impact of such programs on student engagement and preparedness[4];

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Student Government of the University of Florida strongly supports the integration of climate change education into the university curriculum, and calls upon the administration to take proactive steps to implement such programs in a timely and effective manner; and

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the student government urges the university administration to collaborate with students, faculty, and staff to design and implement interdisciplinary courses and programs that effectively address the complexity and urgency of

climate change, and that provide students with opportunities to engage in research, advocacy, and other initiatives that contribute to climate change solutions.

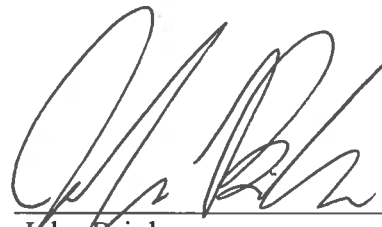
Proviso: A copy of this bill shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, UF Quest 1 Directors Alison Reynolds & Brenda Smith, UF Quest 2 Directors Derek Farnsworth, Selman Hershfield & John Krigbaum, UF Quest 3 Director J. Richard Stepp, Academic Assistant II of UF Quest 1 and IDS 1161 Kendall Kroger

[1] https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf

[2] <https://handbook.aa.ufl.edu/about-uf/mission-and-plans/>

[3] https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/WCMS_371589/lang--en/index.htm

[4] <https://sustainability.virginia.edu/blog/climate-change-instruction-higher-education>



John Brinkman
Senate President

2/7/2024

Date