

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1109

TITLE: Resolution Requesting the Installation of Security Cameras for La Casita, IBC, and the NPHC Garden

AUTHOR(S): Senator Laura Jane Bryan and Senator Marian Enriquez

SPONSOR(S): Senator Julia Seifer, Senator AJ Amster, Senator Maya Idiculla, Senator Gabe Vargas, Senator Laurel Wentworth, Senator Caroline Kelley, Senator Isa Penin, Senator Christian Jubran

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is an institution that strives for diversity and inclusivity in all aspects of campus life; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida recognizes the importance of fostering cultural, ethnic, and social awareness through the establishment and support of dedicated spaces and organizations, such as the Institute of Hispanic and Latinx Culture (La Casita), the Institute of Black Culture (IBC), and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Garden; and,

WHEREAS, the Institute of Hispanic and Latinx Culture (La Casita) is a cultural center dedicated to celebrating and promoting Hispanic and Latinx heritage and culture, serving as a hub for the community to engage in activities and events that focus on the rich and diverse cultures, histories, and contributions of Hispanic and Latinx communities [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the Institute of Black Culture (IBC) is a cultural resource center dedicated to promoting the heritage and experiences of the Black community, serving as a focal point for Black individuals to foster a sense of belonging [2]; and,

WHEREAS, the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Garden located on the North Lawn near Marston Science Library is a dedicated outdoor space that celebrates the historically Black Greek-letter organizations, fostering a sense of unity, pride, and cultural appreciation [3]; and,

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2022, the National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden faced its third incident of vandalism within the past two years through the removal of Greek letters from four of the nine plaques [4]; and,

WHEREAS, the installation of security cameras throughout La Casita, the Institute of Black Culture, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden is an important step to enhance the safety and security of these cultural and community spaces ensuring the prevention of security threats; and,

WHEREAS, these institutions provide physical spaces where students can connect, learn, and share their experiences and traditions; and,

WHEREAS, the safety of the University of Florida student body is of utmost importance. To better ensure the safety of students, it is imperative to install security cameras in these cultural spaces to ensure that they remain inviting and respectful; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need for security cameras to be installed around the Institute of Hispanic and Latinx Culture (La Casita), the Institute of Black Culture (IBC), and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Garden;

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the importance of its diverse student body's safety and security;

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes that the most feasible way to promote student safety near these institutes and discourage crime in these areas is via the installation of security cameras.

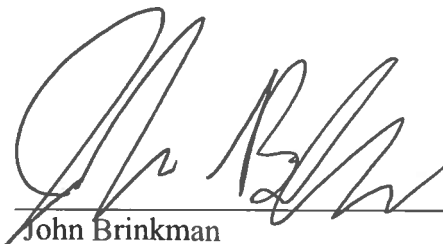
Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, Institute of Hispanic and Latinx Culture, Institute of Black Culture, and Chief of UF Police Linda J. Stump-Kurnick.

[1] <https://institutes.multicultural.ufl.edu/la-casita/>

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

[3] <https://greeks.ufl.edu/nphc-garden/>

[4] <https://www.wuft.org/news/2022/11/17/national-pan-hellenic-council-garden-faces-third-vandalism-instance/>



John Brinkman
Senate President

2/16/2024

Date