

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-XXXX

TITLE: Resolution for Green New Deal at UF – Volume IV (Call for Clean Research Pledge)

AUTHOR(S): Senator Meagan Lamey

SPONSORS: Senate President John Brinkman, Senate President Pro-Tempore Saketh Damera, Majority Party Leader Julia Seifer, Minority Party Leader Nathaniel Pelton, Deputy Minority Party Leader Anamika Naidu, Senator Arturo Zárrate, Senator Allan Rivera Jaramillo, Senator Elizabeth Insuasti, Senator Isha Khan, Senator Daniel Permane, Senator Simone Liang, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Michael Lim, Green Caucus Chair and Senator Zoe Richter, Senator Chalisa Budhai, Senator Antonio Hendricks, Senator Evan Rafanan, Senator Charlie Werner, Senator Hunter Monson, Senator Monorath Khinsim, Senator Max Banach, Senator Vivian Phung, Student Recreational Sports Chair and Senator Raj Mia, Senator Sarah Hoffer, Senator Caitlyn Mathews, Senator Ana Alvarez Pride Student Union President Johnathon Chance Stevens, Sunrise Movement Gainesville President Sofia Aviles, Climate Action Gator President Campbell Al-Khafaji, University of Florida College Democrats President Sabrina Briceno, Young Democratic Socialists of America Co-Chair Syd Engstrom, Planned Parenthood Generation Action at the University of Florida President Amelia Packham, United Nations Association Gainesville President Ariana Ramos-Mercado, Students for Sensible Drug Policy President Madeline Comorat, Baking for Wellness Treasurer Oscar Santiago Perez

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is a defining challenge of the twenty-first century. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a report in 2018 urging the necessity to reduce global emissions by 45% by 2030 (from 2010 levels) to prevent the worst consequences of climate change [1]; and,

WHEREAS, as a leader in climate science, the University of Florida has a responsibility to model the types of climate policy that institutions around the world should be adopting; and,

WHEREAS, funding from the fossil fuel industry as a means to finance research has been common within universities around the United States [2]; and,

WHEREAS, the receipt of funding from the fossil fuel industry as a means to finance research has been linked to more favorable findings of fossil fuels as an energy source [3]; and,

WHEREAS, there currently exists no conflict of interest or disclosure policy at the UF for climate researchers accepting research funding from the fossil fuel industry and its subsidiaries; and,

WHEREAS, the conflict of interest inherent with accepting money by fossil fuel companies to fund climate-related research raises a significant doubt on the integrity of research conducted by UF; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida has an obligation to uphold the academic and moral integrity of its research [4]; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate condemns the receipt of funding from the fossil fuel industry as a means to finance research at the University of Florida; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate calls on UF to institute an oversight procedure for researchers accepting fossil fuel industry; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate calls on the deans of each college within UF and the Vice President of Research to prohibit the receipt of any financial contributions from the fossil fuel industry to finance research; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes fossil-free research as a guiding pillar of a Green New Deal for the University of Florida which it endorses the implementation of; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate calls upon Florida Lawmakers to take action to address the climate crisis in an urgent manner and to adopt a Green New Deal for the State of Florida.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Chair of the Board of Governors Brian Lamb, Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Shawn Hamilton, University President Ben Sasse, Board of Trustees Chair Mori Hosseini, Vice President of Business Affairs Curtis Reynolds, Student Body President Olivia Elizabeth Green, Sustainability Committee Chair Andrew Zimmerman, Sustainability Committee Vice Chair Jessica Sheffield, Office of Sustainability Director Matthew Williams, Office of Sustainability Senior Programs Director Liz Storn, and Gators Going Green Agency Head Samantha Simon

Florida State Representative Anna Eskamani endorses this bill. Further, the author and sponsors of this bill recognize Cameron Driggers as a co-author to this resolution.

[1]<https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

[2]<https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2023/03/06/fossil-fuel-industry-gave-hundreds-millions-higher-ed>

[3]https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01521-3.epdf?sharing_token=mQSBI2KfPpAhW5B9csTmZdRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0PFHvJIHvJ_ACmLOp1FbbeYLFbTIh79O4B_VZuginsdQamco0nP-FzFHhXGX4YEpDIAAbSZKdPVKV0cQgDL0SZgigXnsr7PZcMqJ9BDEjJPsmXFc6Dd4DyKGSboqf9yhckC6aEpddbD9fIlPTIVm5ICJ2U04QCcWf4Lr861EOHvuuoGL1gp2UHV-jDvqxLK2cc3wCoXkKYvzuvlwP2-kf0f_GTQZv8iVO3xJJ0Np8DrNYuxBv-vCH41cejdn_HibVILNnm1CD-Q29qtVC6y8cGInjyGNGv1G5rkzufRsEXw%3D%3D&tracking_referrer=www.theguardian.com

[4]<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2020/12/Orange-Book-Web-Version-2020.pdf>