

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1214

TITLE: Resolution Advocating for Temporary Easing of Parking Restrictions during Exam Season at the University of Florida

AUTHOR(S): Senator Laurie Wang, Senator Ayesha Khuddus, Senator Hunter Monson

SPONSOR(S):

WHEREAS, the University of Florida (UF) Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) plays a vital role in managing parking resources & ensuring efficient transportation on campus; and,

WHEREAS, students face heightened stress levels during exam seasons due to academic pressures, & parking restrictions can contribute to additional stress & inconvenience; and,

WHEREAS, the National Library of Medicine found that 76.5% were stressed out before the exam, & 23.5% were not stressed out, demonstrating a statistically significant relationship regarding the stress levels of undergraduate students during exam season [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the alleviation of parking restrictions during exam seasons is a proactive measure to ease the burden on students & contributes to a more supportive & understanding campus environment; and,

WHEREAS, the temporary lifting of parking restrictions, especially within Red zones, would provide students with greater flexibility & accessibility during periods of academic intensity; and,

WHEREAS, according to the UF master Plan, “an inventory conducted in January 2020 shows that there are 24,709 parking spaces on the main campus,” with 3,817 student resident decal spaces, 6,765 student commuter decal spaces, & 11,303 employee decal spaces [2]; and,

WHEREAS, a 2023 analysis found that UF has 6,600+ faculty, 41,180 undergraduate students, 16,107 graduate students, & 3,915 professional students to make a total of 61,112 students with a student-faculty ratio of 17:1 [3]; and,

WHEREAS, prior to the demolition of Maguire Village & University Village South, the University of Florida residence halls had a total capacity of 7,500 students, which potentially could have constituted to roughly 6000 red decals & 1500 brown decals [4]; and,

WHEREAS, the lack of accessible parking can cause unnecessary added stress on students; and,

WHEREAS, during exam season, and the easing of such restrictions may alleviate that potential burden & promote better scores; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for the temporary easing of parking restrictions, particularly within the Red zones, during exam seasons to alleviate stress & enhance the accessibility of parking for students; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages UF TAPS to collaborate with student representatives to determine an appropriate & feasible plan for the temporary lifting of parking restrictions, ensuring minimal disruption to the overall campus transportation system; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate promotes the effective communication of UF TAPS to publicize any changes in parking regulations & provide clear guidance to the student body regarding the temporary easing of parking restrictions during exam seasons; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate acknowledges that students have heightened stress levels during exams & the easing of parking restrictions can promote better scores & reduce anxiety; thus, it is encouraged for this change to be immediately discussed & implemented as soon as possible.

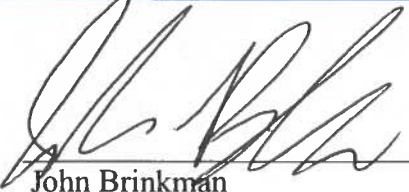
Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, Provost Scott Angle, Interim Director of TAPS Lynda Reinhart, Associate Director for the Center for Instructional Technology and Training Kimbley Standifer, Transportation Manager Jeremiah Mcinnis, TAPS Associate Director Ronald Fuller, Associate Vice President for Business Affairs Brandi Renton.

[1] [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10523350/#:~:text=Overall%2C%20153%20\(76.5%25\)%20were,anxious%20students%20were%20stressed%20out.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10523350/#:~:text=Overall%2C%20153%20(76.5%25)%20were,anxious%20students%20were%20stressed%20out.)

[2] <https://facilities.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/plan/2020-2030/data/Transpo%20DandA%202020.pdf>

[3] <https://news.ufl.edu/media/newsufledu/documents/2023-06-28-UF-Fact-Sheet-update.pdf>

[4] <https://news.ufl.edu/media/newsufledu/documents/UF-Fact-Sheet-For-Journalists.pdf>


John Brinkman
Senate President

3/1/2024
Date