

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-XXXX

TITLE: Resolution Commemorating the Accomplishments of Florida Gators Freshman QB DJ Lagway

AUTHOR(S): Change Caucus Leader Max Banach

SPONSORS: Gator Tufaan Captain Anamika Naidu, Senator Lucas Nadeau, Senator Austin Britton

WHEREAS, DJ Lagway attended Willis High School in Willis, Texas, where he led the team to a 12-1 record in his senior year alongside “their first district title since 2002 and a trip to the 6A-Division II regional final” [1][3]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway “set the Texas Class 6A single-season record for touchdown passes and brought Willis High School to its best record in 60 years with their first trip to the regional semifinals since 1994” [1]; and,

WHEREAS, during his high school career, Lagway accumulated 8,392 passing yards with 100 touchdown passes, alongside 2,196 rushing yards and 29 rushing touchdowns over four seasons [2]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway earned the 2023 MaxPreps National Player of the Year award [2]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway was ranked a consensus five-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals emphasizing his status as one of the premier players in the class of 2024 [4]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway was ranked the #1 QB recruit, #1 Texas recruit, and #3 overall recruit in the 2024 football recruiting class by 247Sports [5]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway was a finalist in the prestigious Elite 11 quarterback competition during his high school career, competing against the best quarterbacks in the nation [2]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway was named the 2023-24 Gatorade National Football Player of the Year, becoming the fourth Gator to receive this prestigious award [3]; and,

WHEREAS, as a true freshman at the University of Florida, Lagway achieved a 6-1 record as a starting quarterback and 6-0 when playing the entire game for the 2024 season, completing 59.2% of his passes for 1,610 yards, 11 touchdowns, and 7 interceptions in the regular season [4][6]; and,

WHEREAS, in his collegiate debut, Lagway set a Florida freshman passing record with 456 yards and three touchdowns, leading the Gators to a 45-7 victory over Samford [5]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway was named a True Freshman All-American by 247Sports, On3, and Pro Football Focus, recognizing his significant impact on the field [4]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway is ranked the top FBS QB in the nation for deep passing efficiency with “12 completions of 40-plus yards and leads all FBS passers with a 97.3 passing grade on deep balls,” showcasing his ability to consistently deliver accurate long throws [4]; and,

WHEREAS, Lagway led the Florida Gators in beating No. 21 LSU and No. 9 Ole Miss during the 2024 season, resulting in “back-to-back top-25 wins as an unranked team for the first time since 2003” [4]; and,

WHEREAS, DJ Lagway was named MVP of the 2024 Gasparilla Bowl after breaking the bowl's passing yard record with 305 yards in Florida’s victory over Tulane [6]; and,

WHEREAS, off the field, Lagway is known for his exemplary character and leadership, contributing positively to the university community; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that UF Student Senate commends DJ Lagway for his outstanding achievements during his freshman year and acknowledges the dedication of the coaching staff, teammates, and fans who supported his success.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY BE RESOLVED that UF Student Senate extends its best wishes to DJ Lagway for continued success in his collegiate career, anticipating further contributions to the prestige of the University of Florida both on and off the football field.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to DJ Lagway, Interim University President Kent Fuchs, Student Body President John Brinkman, University Athletic Association Director Scott Stricklin, Head Football Coach Billy Napier, Quarterbacks Coach Ryan O’Hara, Co-Offensive Coordinator Russ Callaway, Associate Athletic Director of Recruiting Strategy Katie Turner, Director of Creative Media and Social Strategy Jordan Herald, Alligator Sports Editor Jack Meyer, Alligator Football Reporter Luke Adragna, and Gator Boosters Executive Director Phil Pharr.

[1] - <https://www.alligator.org/article/2024/01/dj-lagway-named-2023-24-gatorade-texas-football-player-of-the-year>

[2] - <https://www.sportskeeda.com/us/high-school-sports/news-dj-lagway-s-high-school-stats-a-look-florida-gators-freshman-qb-s-career-college>

[3] - <https://floridagators.com/news/2024/1/5/dj-lagway-named-2023-24-gatorade-national-football-player-of-the-year.aspx>

[4] - <https://floridagators.com/sports/football/roster/dj-lagway/16776>

[5] - <https://247sports.com/Season/2024-Football/RecruitRankings/?InstitutionGroup=HighSchool/>

[6] - <https://www.si.com/college/florida/football/gators-qb-dj-lagway-gasparilla-bowl-mvp-01jfkdn6z3ks#:~:text=Florida%20Gators%20quarterback%20DJ%20Lagway,home%20the%20Gasparilla%20Bowl%20MVP.&text=Lagway%20completed%2022%20of%2035.completions%20are%20both%20career%20highs>.