

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1085

TITLE: Land Acknowledgement Revision Act (LARA) - R&P CHANGE

AUTHORS: Senator Cassandra Urbenz, Senate President Julia Seifer

SPONSORS: Senator Austin Britton, Senator Abigail Melamed

RULE III MEETINGS OF THE SENATE

(AMENDED: 2014-106, 2019-124, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2023-124, 2023-147, 2024-201, 2024-239, 2024-240, 2024-246, 2025-115, 2025-85)

1. Regular Meetings

e. The University of Florida Student Government, ~~in its commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment,~~ hereby adopts the following Indigenous Land Acknowledgement statement. This statement will be read ~~by the Chair of the Senate~~ at the commencement of each Student Senate session.

i. ~~We, the University of Florida Student Government, recognize that our campus is located on the ancestral and traditional territory of the Seminole tribe of Florida and the Timucua tribe. We recognize that the historic displacement and violence against Indigenous people has led to severe plights for Indigenous individuals throughout our American history. Despite these circumstances, the Indigenous communities across this nation have continued to stay connected and nurturing with this territory and with their cultural ways of life. We pay our respects to these Indigenous elders and descendants of the past and present, especially those who have called the University of Florida home within their lifetime. We shall commit ourselves to supporting Indigenous sovereignty and culture within and beyond the University of Florida.~~ We acknowledge that the University of Florida is located on the ancestral and present homelands of the Ais, Apalachee, Calusa, Creek, Miccosukee, and Yamasee peoples, with our main campus located on the ancestral territory of the Potano and of the Seminole peoples. The Potano, of Timucua affiliation, lived here in the Alachua region until the destruction of their towns in the early 1700s. We pay our respects to these Indigenous elders and descendants of the past and present, especially those who have called the University of Florida home within their lifetime. And now, for a moment of silence.