

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1097

TITLE: Resolution Advocating for Native Pine Tree Planting

AUTHOR(S): Senator Adam Putnam, Senator Andrew Brantmeyer

SPONSOR(S): Senator Alexa Trower, Majority Party Leader Rafeh Khan

WHEREAS, the University of Florida (UF) is committed to developing knowledge in agricultural and natural resources to enhance the quality of human life [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the UF campus could offer opportunities for the integration of native tree species into existing green spaces to promote biodiversity and campus beauty; and,

WHEREAS, vacant or underutilized spaces on campus could provide viable locations for planting initiatives that enhance biodiversity, improve air quality, provide shade, and foster student well-being [2]; and,

WHEREAS, native pine species such as longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*) are historically native to the North Central Florida region, and their restoration can support habitat development for native wildlife [3]; and,

WHEREAS, the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee (LUFPC) is responsible for making recommendations on land management and planning efforts across campus and plays a role in the approval and implementation of landscaping projects [4]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee to plant native pine trees in vacant or suitable locations on campus.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that this resolution supports efforts to involve students in the planting processes where possible.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate reaffirms its commitment to responsible land stewardship, native species restoration, and collaborative action on campus where possible.

Proviso: *A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Chair of the Landscape and Vegetation Committee Gail Hanson.*

[1] <https://ifas.ufl.edu/about-us/>

[2] <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/FR003>

[3] <https://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/trees-and-shrubs/trees/florida-pines/>

[4] <https://facilities.ufl.edu/campus-planning/committees/land-use-and-facilities-planning-committee/>