

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session CIII

General Body Meeting 7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 31st, 2020 https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/583838005

Roll Call Mission Statement Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes Motion to Approve the Minutes Representative Buxton seconded by Representative Carson

**Chair's Report -** Hello everyone! I hope all your online classes are going well. As I hope you all saw, we have considered all of the legislation tonight already. GSS is sending them back to us, and the authors will mention what amendments they made. Because it's all old business, I stuck it under old business on the agenda, which works the same as items to be considered, so don't be confused! If you are, you are welcome to do an "on information." Before we begin, I wanted to amend my own rules for the Zoom. The rules will be the same other than unmuting yourself. Please unmute yourself when I call on you and then please mute yourself again once you're done talking. General elections are a week from today! Please make sure you're reviewing the rules for electronic campaigning in the Code Annotated. If you have any questions, please email Sam Quick at electionchair@ou.edu. Two weeks from today, we will be gaveling into the new session with our new members. Additionally, there are two other important things happening that night. The first is exec nomination needs to be seconded. The second important thing is committee chair applications. They will be opening after Congress that night and will close at midnight after exec elections. If anyone has any questions about this, please let me know in advance. Thank you all! I look forward to our first official e-meeting

**Vice Chair's Report –** I don't have anything official to report. If you are a committee chair, please finish up your transition materials.

**Secretary's Report –** Hey y'all. I'm sorry if I am not looking at all your beautiful faces. I have a new set up so I can take minutes easier. I am really digging this set up. But please note that absences are still going on. Constituent service hours are going to be excused for the month of April.

## **Committee Reports-**

- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** Mot of our projects are on hold. But expanding golf card access project and surveys are still on. Emailing and calling projects are still on. RSO swap is off. We are still making good progress during these weeks.
- **Congressional Administration:** we talked about projects finishing up. We should have 4 or 5 pieces by April 1<sup>st</sup>. 2 of those are big projects. Foster's election reform legislation is a complete restructuring

adding in new ideas and taking out old ideas. We are seeing a constitutional amendment from a range to a number. Redistricting will be a lot easier.

- **External Affairs:** 2 trillion-dollar stimulus package. College students are in a weird position that we are dependents but paying our own bills.
- **Human Diversity:** This week I reached out to everyone on our committee. We are working on the mascot bill and what it means to be a sooner, but we are not going to continue with that one because it is not easy to debate.
- **Sustainability:** We talked about the projects that could be continued. We will be working with the RA program and working on educating them. We got an email back and they seem eager. We are going to do a virtual trash walk and wear gloves. Stay tuned. We are still working on our social media thing. We will be focusing more on that.
- **University Policy:** Most projects are put on hold until next semester. We are trying to contact admin to talk about impact on student workers, seeing if there is anything we can do to help.
- **Ways and Means:** My committee didn't meet, and we won't be until 2 weeks from now. I am making my way through primary. Then I will be presenting it in an extended meeting. The other legislation we will have to pass some form of legislation regarding the fiscal for this semester. I don't know if it has to be an actual change to the bylaws or a resolution.

### Liaison Reports

Tucker: OU write club is happening virtually this Thursday on April 7th. My professor is worried about Zoom bombers but we will make a invite list through a google form.

Special Orders Student Concerns Old Business

### Motion to see bill

## Representative Chism seconded by Representative Tucker

CR-103-03 Black History Month Resolution

Chism: The only change that we made to this bill is that we added citations. GSS asked for more. Farmer: What is the citation for the bill?

Chism: In the bill there is the last whereas clause from the stats from the pew research center and we added where we got that and there is the link.

#### Motion to see bill

## Representative South seconded by Representative Farmer

CR-103-04 Black Emergency Response Team Support Resolution

South: The only change made to this is that there was a change in verb tense in the 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause to make it grammatically correct.

Buxton: Would that not just be a scrivener?

South: That is what I thought but it got sent back.

#### Motion to see bill

#### Representative Broadbent seconded by Representative Marvin

CR-103-05 Women's History Month Acknowledgement Resolution of 2020

Broadbent: This is the Women's History Month bill. The last whereas clause appeared twice in the bill and that is all that changed.

#### Motion to see bill

## Representative Harman seconded by Representative Buxton

CR-103-06 Get OUt the Vote

Buxton: All the change is the replacement of "exceptional" to "American" and the formatting of the footnotes aren't correct. That is it.

## Motion to see bill

## Representative Farmer seconded by Representative Tucker

CR-103-07 OUr Voice

Buxton: This is the EA version of the bill. There is the same amendment that was in the last bill and that was it.

Kerr: This is more of a scrivener's error, but it says "AmericanDemocratic"

Buxton: There needs to be a space.

Bouch: Why change necessary?

Buxton: I don't think it was. It wasn't a big enough deal to send back to congress but there was an overwhelming majority.

## Items to Be Considered

## Follow-Up Reports

Chism: Follow up on the Bert bill. I am glad it went through the body. There were comments that things might be or not be racist, but this is still good and important work that we are doing.

## Items for Future Agenda

Hillis: Can I have 5 bill numbers? DeAngeli: Yes...oh my I will make a note of that.

## Announcements and Comments

Broadbent: Two things. Make sure you all fill out the census. Secondly, April elections are postponed to June for Cleveland County

Merchant: George sent me something about the census and I put that on our Instagram.

South: If you or someone you know is a student worker, please message me and if you have any suggestions for congress to work on that let me know.

Chism: Do we have a resolution in the works for staying in doors?

DeAngeli: I don't think we do.

Broadbent: EA can do that.

DeAngeli: If anyone is interested contact Hennessey or Crispin.

Garg: International students have raised money so please donate to help us.

Ahmadi: Yes, make sure you take the census. I really need your help in letting other students know. I sent a tool kit to Mahak, Savanah, and Emma. Please make sure that this tool kit gets to the congress members. They need to be taking it as if it were a normal academic year. There is a video in there from the census. If you guys can access that tool kit that would be amazing.

Final Roll Call Adjourn

## Motion to skip final roll call and adjourn Representative Buxton seconded by Representative Carson

Chair: Emma DeAngeli Vice Chair: Mahak Merchant Secretary: Savanah Patterson

Session 103	General
Alpert, Lucy	х
Babbitt, Jason	х
Bell, Aspen	х
Biskup, Emma	abs
Broadbent, Taylor	х
Buxton, Nate	х
Carmona, Ismael	abs
Carson, Jada	х
Chism, Hennessey	х
Flaggert, Jayke	х
Garg, Nishit	х
Grebe, Jordan	х
Harman, Caitlyn	х
Heuser, Audrey	х
Hillis, Foster	х
Kerr, Susan	Х
Lange, Jake	Х
Long, Matt	abs
Luthfiyah, Anne	abs
Marvin, Alexis	Х
May, Sidney	Х
Mayes, Mark	х
McGee, Tess	х
Murdock, Max	х
Powell, Britney	Х
Roberts, Lauren	х
Rojas, Julio	х
Rosen, Ashley	Х
Schneider, Caitlin	Х
Sertovic, Adia	abs

Spangler-Day, Santana	abs
South, Crispin	х
Stormer, Sam	х
Thomas, Christopher	х
Tucker, Emily	х
vonHartitzsch, August	abs
Werdel, Gina	х
Present	30
Absent	7
Excused	0

Session 103	CR-103-04	CR-103-05	CR-103-06	CR-103-07	CR-103-03
Alpert, Lucy	у	У	У	у	у
Babbitt, Jason	у	У	У	У	у
Bell, Aspen	У	У	у	У	у
Biskup, Emma					
Broadbent, Taylor	у	у	у	у	у
Buxton, Nate	у	У	У	У	у
Carmona, Ismael					
Carson, Jada	у	у	у	У	у
Chism, Hennessey	у	у	у	у	у
Flaggert, Jayke	у	У	У	У	у
Garg, Nishit	У	У	у	У	у
Grebe, Jordan	у	у	у	У	у
Harman, Caitlyn	у	У	у	у	у
Heuser, Audrey	у	у	у	у	у
Hillis, Foster	У	У	У	У	у

Kerr, Susan	у	у	у	у	у
Lange, Jake				у	
Long, Matt					
Luthfiyah, Anne					
Marvin, Alexis	у	у	у	у	у
May, Sidney	у	у	у	у	У
Mayes, Mark	у	у	у	у	у
McGee, Tess	у	у	у	у	у
Murdock, Max	у	у	у	у	У
Powell, Britney	у	у	у	у	У
Roberts, Lauren	у	у	у	у	у
Rojas, Julio	у	у	у	у	У
Rosen, Ashley	у	у	у	у	У
Schneider, Caitlin	у	у	у	у	У
Sertovic, Adia					
Spangler-Day, Santana					
South, Crispin	у	У	у	У	У
Stormer, Sam	у	У	У	У	У
Thomas, Christopher	n	У	у	У	У
Tucker, Emily	у	У	у	У	У
vonHartitzsch, August					
Werdel, Gina	у	у	у	у	У
Yes	28	29	29	30	29
No	1	0	0	0	0
Abstain	0	0	0	0	0

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

## GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE SENATE SESSION GS20 March 29, 2020

## CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-103-03 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS20-15

### AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution reflecting on the importance of Black History Month; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: The month of February is nationally recognized as Black History Month;

Whereas: The United States, as well as the State of Oklahoma, has a long history of marginalizing Black individuals on the basis of racist, bigoted, and supremist ideals;

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma has harbored individuals who are ignorant of, and inflammatory towards, race relations on campus in an environment that is increasingly obstinate to the ability of Black students to attain a quality education.

Whereas: The United States, Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma have struggled with the legacy of this nation's original sin, individuals such as Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher and George W. McLaurin, who fought for the right of Black students to higher education, see their goal and legacy being continued by modern groups such as the Black Emergency Response Team and the Black Student Association;

Whereas: In the last year the University of Oklahoma has experienced several disgusting acts of overt racism including incidences of Blackface and the use of racial slurs against Black students;

Whereas: In the first weeks of 2020, the University of Oklahoma has suffered two professors carelessly using racial slurs in class, causing trauma to both their own students and the Black community at large;

Whereas: Few of these incidences are publicized but Black students at this university face similar issues each and every day;

Whereas: A study from the Pew Research Center in 2019 found that 81% of Blacks with "Some college or more" have experienced discrimination, making them more likely to experience discrimination than Blacks who are educated to the level of "High school or less";<sup>1</sup>

Whereas: The same study found that only 54% of non-Hispanic White Americans believe that racial discrimination is a major obstacle for Black Americans;<sup>2</sup>

Whereas: Furthermore, the same study found that non-Hispanic White Americans believe that being Black leads to family instability and a lack of good role models at a higher rate than Blacks believe the same ideas;<sup>3</sup>

Whereas: A bachelor's degree earns a White American \$10,000 more per year than the same degree earns a Black American;

Whereas: Despite systemic racism and overt disadvantage, Black Americans have left an indelible mark on American society, the State of Oklahoma, and the University of Oklahoma;

Whereas: In spite of the circumstances surrounding Black Americans in this country, individuals like Langston Hughes, Barack and Michelle Obama, Venus and Serena Williams, Maya Angelou, Shirley Chisholm, Sojourner Truth, Stevie Wonder, Morgan Freeman, Muhammed Ali, Ruth Carter, Crispus Attucks, Arna Bontemps, Edward Brooke, Senator Kamala Harris, George Washington Carver, Jada Pinkett Smith, Thurgood Marshall, Viola Davis, Jackie Robinson, Louis Armstrong, Toni Morrison, Ella Baker, Meghan Markle, Emmitt Till, Jesse Jackson, Anita Hill, Beyonce Knowles-Carter, Clara Luper, Will Smith, Ava DuVernay, Carol Moseley Braun, Simone Biles, W.E.B Du Bois, Malcom X, Ralph Waldo Ellison, Dr. Ben Carson, George Henderson, and many more, have found success; and

Whereas: Black Americans hold this month dear, in which we all reflect on the obstacles intentionally placed in front of the Black community throughout history and look up to the Black Americans who have not only overcome those obstacles but have also found ways to remove them in order for their own communities to continue succeeding;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Anderson, Monica. "For black Americans, experiences of racial discrimination vary by education level, gender." pewresearch.org, 2019. https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/05/02/for-black-americans-experiences-of-racial-discrimination-vary-by-education-level-gender/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Anderson, "For black Americans."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Anderson, "For black Americans."

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Black History Month Resolution of 2020"

**Section 2:** The Undergraduate Student Congress and the Graduate Student Senate recognize and celebrate the month of February as Black History Month and encourages the student body to use this month as a time to reflect on how we as a University can remove barriers to Black success on this campus.

- **Section 3:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
  - Interim President Joseph Harroz
  - Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion Dr. Belinda Hyppolite
  - The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
  - Governor Kevin Stitt
  - The OU Daily
  - The OU Nightly
  - The OU Forum
  - Gaylord Diversity Committee
  - History Department Committee

Author(s):	Representative Hennessey Chism, International Studies
	Representative Mark Mayes, Finance and Accounting

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Harman seconded by Representative Carson Action taken by Congress: 30-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress:	Date:
Submitted on a motion by: Senator Vijay objected by Senator Israel Action taken by Senate: Passed by placard vote: 41-2-9	
Verified by Chair of Senate:	Date:
Approved by SGA President:	Date:

## THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

## GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE SENATE SESSION GS20 March 29, 2020

## CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-103-04 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS20-17

### AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution supporting the efforts of the Black Emergency Response Team; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: There have been egregious incidents of explicit racism at the University of Oklahoma, both over the years and in the very recent past.

Whereas: Such incidents include the racist "Little Red" mascot in the 1950's, incidents of blackface in 2019, and usage of racial pejoratives by professors in 2020.

Whereas: Substantive change and accountability must occur to facilitate an inclusive environment for all students of color on campus.

Whereas: The Black Emergency Response Team led a well-publicized multi-day sit-in and hunger strike at Evans Hall with the goal of forcing the University of Oklahoma to take action against racism in the OU community.

Whereas: The Black Emergency Response Team released a list of demands that the University needed to meet in order for the sit-in and hunger strike to end.

Whereas: Lack of consequences in the face of blatant structural and explicit racism enables racist behavior and makes complicit those who stay silent.

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Black Emergency Response Team Support Resolution."

**Section 2:** The Student Government Association supports and commends the efforts and dedication of the Black Emergency Response Team, as well as the administration, staff, faculty, and students who have given their support.

**Section 3:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- University of Oklahoma President Joseph Harroz
- Provost Kyle Harper
- Dr. David Surratt, Dean of Students
- Dr. Belinda Higgs-Hyppolite, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- The Black Emergency Response Team
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly
- Author(s): Crispin South, Engineering Representative Hennessey Chism, International Studies Representative

Co-Authors(s): The Executive Committee of the Undergraduate Student Congress Nate Buxton, Humanities Representative

Co-Sponsor(s): Emily Tucker, Humanities Representative Nishit Garg, Life Sciences Representative Hunter McCans, Associate Justice, SGA Superior Court Audrey Heuser, University Policy Committee Chair August vonHartitzsch, University College Representative Max Murdock, Social Sciences Representative Mahak Merchant, Vice Chair Lauren Patton, Budget Chair Cailtin Schneider, Humanities Representative Caitlyn Harman, University College Representative Lucy Alpert, Physical Science Representative Jada Carson, University College Representative Ismael Carmona, Business Representatives Adia Sertovic, Social Science Representatives Jordan Grebe, University College Representative Joseph Ivester, Associate Blake Compton, Associate Jessica Dobson, Associate Sephra Kolker, Associate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Tucker seconded by Representativ	e Carmona
Action taken by Congress: 28-1-0	
Verified by Chair of Congress:	Date:

Submitted on a motion by: Senator Israel seconded by Senator Linsey Action taken by Senate: Passed by Placard Vote: 42-4-7

Verified by Chair of Senate:	Date:
Approved by SGA President:	Date:

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

## GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE SENATE SESSION GS20 March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-103-05 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS20-18

#### AS INTRODUCED

## A Concurrent Resolution Recognizing the Importance Women's History Month.

- Whereas: On August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1981 the 97<sup>th</sup> United States Congress jointly resolved in Public Law 97-28 to establish the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1982 as Women's History Week <sup>4</sup>; and
- Whereas: President Ronald Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 4903 on February 26<sup>th</sup> 1982 which states; "*Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan,* President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982, as Women's

History

Week. Recognizing that the many contributions of American women have at times been overlooked in the annals of American history, I encourage all citizens to observe this important week by participating in appropriate ceremonies and activities planned by individuals, governmental agencies, and private institutions and associations throughout the country<sup>5</sup>;" and

Whereas: In 1987 the National Women's History Project successfully lobbied the 100<sup>th</sup> United States Congress to issue Public Law 100-9 on March 12<sup>th</sup> 1987 to declare the month of March Women's History Month<sup>6</sup>; and

Whereas: President Ronald Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 5619 on March 16<sup>th</sup> 1987 which states; "*Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan,* President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim March 1987 as Women's History Month. I call upon all Americans to mark this month with appropriate observances to honor the achievements of American women<sup>7</sup>;" and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> govinfo, § (1981). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-95/pdf/STATUTE-95-Pg148.pdf.
<sup>5</sup> "Proclamation 4903-Women's History Week, 1982." Proclamation 4903-Women's History Week, 1982 | The American Presidency Project, February 26, 1982.

https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-4903-womens-history-week-1982.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> govinfo, (1987). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-101/pdf/STATUTE-101-Pg99.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Proclamation 5619-Women's History Month, 1987." Proclamation 5619-Women's History Month, 1987 | The American Presidency Project, March 16, 1987.

https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-5619-womens-history-month-1987.

Whereas:	Women of every race, class, and culture helped found the Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways as servants, slaves, nuns, homemakers, industrial workers, teachers, reformers, medical professionals, scientists, lawyers, politicians, soldiers, and pioneers <sup>1</sup> ; and
Whereas:	Women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of our Nation's life by constituting a significant portion of the labor force <sup>1</sup> ; and
Whereas:	Women have played a unique role throughout our history by providing the majority of the Nation's volunteer labor force and have been particularly important in the establishment of early charitable philanthropic and cultural institutions in the country <sup>1</sup> ; and
Whereas:	Women of every race, class, and cultural background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, not only to secure their own right of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor union movement, and the civil rights movement; and <sup>1</sup>
Whereas:	Despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the body of American history <sup>1</sup> ; therefore
Whereas:	Women serve in numerous positions throughout the Nation including service, leadership, STEM, philanthropy, and additional spaces. In doing so, women continue to push barriers and create new marks in American history; therefore

# BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Section 1:	Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Women's History Month Acknowledgement Resolution of 2020"
Section 2:	The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges the historic work of women as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, not only to secure their own right of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor union movement, and the civil rights movement
Section 3:	The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association seeks to empower women as leaders both on and off campus and ensure they have access to any and all resources necessary to succeed.
~	

**Section 4:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Joseph Harroz, Interim President of The University of Oklahoma
- Dr. Belinda Higgs Hyppolite Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion for The University of Oklahoma
- Dr. David Surratt Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Quy Nguyen, Director of Student Life
- Erin Simpson, Director of the Gender and Equality Center
- Professor Elyssa Faison Interim Chair of Women's and Gender
- Author(s):Taylor Broadbent, Chair of External AffairsRebecca Yanez, Member of Executive Cabinet Diversity and Inclusion

Co-Sponsor(s): Caitlin Schneider, Humanities Representative Mahak Merchant, Vice Chair Caitlyn Harman, University College Representative Audrey Heuser, University Policy Committee Chair Alexis Marvin, Campus Outreach Safety and Concerns Vice Chair Tess McGee, University College Representative Aspen Bell, Physical Sciences Representative August vonHartitzsch, University College Adia Sertovic, Social Science Representative Emily Tucker, Humanities Representative Lucy Alpert, Physical Science Representative Lauren Patton, Budget Chair Jada Carson, University College Representative Sephra Kolker, Associate Britney Powell, Finance and Accounting Representative Savanah Patterson, Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Congress Submitted on a motion by: Representative Tucker seconded by Representative Sertovic Action taken by Congress: 29-0-0 Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Submitted on a motion by: Senator Grover seconded by Senator Reynolds Action taken by Senate: Passed by unanimous consent Verified by Chair of Senate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by SGA President:	Date:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

> GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE SENATE SESSION GS20 March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-103-06 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS20-19

#### AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution calling on the University of Oklahoma to make election day a school holiday.

- Whereas: The average voter turnout for the US since 2000 is  $54.96\%^8$ ; and
- Whereas: The turnout for the 2018 midterm elections was  $50.3\%^9$ ; and
- Whereas: Youth involvement in American politics is increasing with innovations in media and youth outreach programs from campaigns; and

Whereas: Students should not have to decide between academic success and fulfilling their civic duty to our American democratic process; and

Whereas: Delaware, Hawaii, Kentucky, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, and the territory of Puerto Rico have declared Election Day a civic holiday. Along with other states giving workers parts of the day off for voting.

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

**Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Get OUt the Vote"

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages The University of Oklahoma to make Federal Election day a school holiday as a matter of policy, outside of the unscheduled school holiday allowed by the University of Oklahoma Regents policy manual section 5.15.

- **Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages students of our University to fulfill their civic obligation to register and vote in their nations State and Local elections.
- **Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages residents of Oklahoma, in places of civic engagement, to consider the importance of a highly educated voter base from our country to local community.
- **Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

<sup>9</sup> Sutter, John D. "Election Day Should Be a Federal Holiday." CNN. Cable News Network, November 12, 2012. http://www.cnn.com/2012/11/12/opinion/ctl-election-holiday/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Sanders Institute. "Why Don't Americans Vote?: The Sanders Institute." Why Don't Americans Vote? | The. Accessed March 11, 2020. https://www.sandersinstitute.com/blog/why-dont-americans-vote.

- President Joseph Harroz Jr.
- Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. David Surratt
- OK Votes
- The Norman Transcript
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- KOCO 5

Author(s):	Representative Nathaniel Buxton, Vice-Chair of External Affairs
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Co-Author(s): Representative Taylor Broadbent, Chair of External Affairs Representative Crispin South, Vice Chair of University Policy

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Marvin seconded by Representative Grebe Action taken by Congress: 29-0-0 Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted on a motion by: Senator Israel seconded by Senator Grover Action taken by Senate: Passed by roll call vote: 43-4-5

Verified by Chair of Senate:	Date:
Approved by SGA President:	Date:

## THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

> GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE SENATE SESSION GS20 March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-103-07 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS20-20

## AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution calling on our respective levels of Government to make election day a holiday.

Whereas: The average voter turnout for the US since 2000 is 54.96%<sup>10</sup>; and

Whereas: The turnout for the 2018 midterm elections was 50.3%<sup>11</sup>; and

Whereas: Youth involvement in American Politics is increasing with innovations in media and youth outreach programs from campaigns; and

Whereas: Americans should not have to decide between academic success and fulfilling their civic duty to our Americandemocratic process; and

Whereas: Delaware, Hawaii, Kentucky, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, and the territory of Puerto Rico have declared Election Day a civic holiday. Along with other states giving workers parts of the day off for voting; and

# BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the "OUr Voice"

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages our federal, state and local legislators to make Federal Election Day a federal/state holiday.

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages students of our University to fulfill their civic duty to register and vote in their nations State and Local elections.

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages all Americans, in places of civic engagement, to consider the importance of a highly

populated and highly educated voter base from our country to local community.

## **Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Donald J. Trump
- Governor Kevin Stitt
- Majority Leader Mitch McConnel

<sup>11</sup> Sutter, John D. "Election Day Should Be a Federal Holiday." CNN. Cable News Network, November 12, 2012. http://www.cnn.com/2012/11/12/opinion/ctl-election-holiday/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Sanders Institute. "Why Don't Americans Vote?: The Sanders Institute." Why Don't Americans Vote? | The. Accessed March 11, 2020. https://www.sandersinstitute.com/blog/why-dont-americans-vote.

- Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi
- Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
- Minority Leader Chuck Schumer
- Representative Tom Cole
- Senator Jim Inhofe
- Senator James Lankford
- Speaker Charles McCall
- President Pro Tempore Greg Treat
- Minority Leader Emily Virgin
- Senator Rob Standridge
- Senator Mary Boren
- Representative Merleyn Bell
- Representative Jacob Rosencrats
- OK Votes
- The Oklahoman
- The Norman Transcript
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- KOCO 5

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