# COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL • MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS**

**THE 37TH SESSION OF THE STUDENT SENATE**

## RESOLUTION HISTORY FOR LEGISLATIVE ARCHIVAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOLUTION ITEM</th>
<th>SR3707</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORMAL TITLE</td>
<td>Professor Proctored Lockdown Browser Testing Resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUTHOR(S)</td>
<td>James Magee, Lower Division Senator;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPONSORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Rubido, Comptroller; Christian Perez, Graduate Senator; Karla Sofia Perez, Business Senator; Julio Burgos, At Large Senator; Cristina Vale, SIPA Senator; Shahnawaz Rafi, Graduate Senator; Amanda Ramirez, CASE Senator; Cristhofer Lugo, Engineering and Computing Senator; Cane Lige, Dillon Manphool, Winston Khan, Alexandre Touzard, Jazzi Brown, Nanyala Sanchez, Roxana Rodriguez, Dorothy Darden, Lisandra Schaening</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FILING DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-19-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMITTEE REFERRAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCED TO FLOOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ST READING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND READING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOTE COUNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENATE ACTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXECUTED ACTION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMARY/LEGISLATIVE INTENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSION – 1ST READING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| DOCUMENTS/RESEARCH/PERSONAL STATEMENTS |

**Recommendation Coding:** Words in red are recommendations by the Rules Committee. 1
COUNCIL RESOLUTION
STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL · MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS
THE 37TH SESSION OF THE STUDENT SENATE

Resolution Item SR3707
Formal Title Professor Proctored Lockdown Browser Testing Resolution
Author(s) James Magee, Lower Division Senator;
Sponsors Alexander Rubido, Comptroller; Christian Perez, Graduate Senator; Karla Sofia Perez; Business Senator; Julio Burgos, At Large Senator; Cristina Vale, SIPA Senator; Shahnawaz Rafi, Graduate Senator; Amanda Ramirez, CASE Senator; Cristhofer Lugo, Engineering and Computing Senator; Cane Lige, Dillon Manphool, Winston Khan, Alexandre Touzard, Jazzi Brown, Nanyala Sanchez, Roxana Rodriguez, Dorothy Darden, Lisandra Schaening
Filed 10-19-20
Committee Referral

A Resolution to Make Exams be Proctored by Professors through Lockdown Browser and Zoom

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
   a) This Resolution may be cited as the “Lockdown Browser Act”.

SECTION 2. TERMS
   a) “FIU” refers to the Florida International University, its student community, its faculty and administration, or any combination thereof;
   b) “SGC-MMC” refers to the Student Government Council of the Modesto A. Maidique Campus of Florida International University;
   c) “Honorlock” refers to the on-demand online proctoring service;
   d) “ProctorU” refers to live and automated online proctoring service;
   e) “Lockdown Browser” refers to the custom browser that locks down the exam environment;
   f) “Zoom” refers to cloud-based video app that allows virtual video and audio conferencing;

SECTION 3. POLICY
   a) The proposals outlined in this Resolution are in compliance with the authority granted in Article III, Section 3.01.b.i.1 of the SGC-MMC Statutes.

SECTION 4. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the use of the Honorlock system has been implemented for professional and academic integrity for FIU courses during the COVID-19 pandemic;

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WHEREAS, the Honorlock system collects facial data in addition to government identification data which displays dates of birth, addresses, and other private information pertaining to students;

WHEREAS, the Honorlock system also collects device IP addresses, web, and mobile activity which violate student privacy rights;

WHEREAS, although students do agree to the terms and conditions for using the Honorlock program, in many instances the student’s consent to Honorlock’s data policies is forced by the fact that they must take their exam on the platform in order to receive a grade for their course;

WHEREAS, although Honorlock is a good program for conducting online proctoring exams, due to Covid many students have been forced to take test in uncomfortable environments;

WHEREAS, the Covid Pandemic has forced many students to take remote classes, when they were originally set to take classes on campus;

WHEREAS, Honorlock flags exams in which noise is detected in the student’s background, which can be particularly troublesome for students who do not have access to quiet study spaces at home. Due to the pandemic, most students are either living at home, whether that be in the United States or abroad;

WHEREAS, at the time of writing 7,174 FIU Students have signed a petition, authored by Jazzi Brown class of 2022, in favor of banning forced usage of an Honorlock system [1];

WHEREAS, many students have expressed their frustrations with the Honorlock program in the comments of this petition [1];

Recommendation Coding: Words in red are recommendations by the Rules Committee. 3
WHEREAS, a large number of students have said they have experienced network problems (ie: unstable internet, unnecessary flagging of exam) on the change.org petition [1];

WHEREAS, At the time of writing 5,971 Florida State University students have signed a petition in favor of having the University refrain from using Honorlock [2]. At the time of writing 6,388 University of Texas Dallas students have signed a petition in favor of removing Honorlock [3]. At the time of writing 28,143 students from The City University of New York have signed a petition to remove the use of Proctorio [4]. At the time of writing 367 students at the University of Florida signed a petition in favor of removing Honorlock and ProctorU [5]. And at the time of writing 5,358 students from Tilburg University in the Netherlands have signed a similar petition [6] which demonstrates this is an issue that impacts students all across the nation and the world;

WHEREAS, some professors are looking for other exam setups as an alternative to the Honorlock system;

WHEREAS, in a survey of the opinions of three professors from FIU on the different available testing sites, one said “I prefer giving test in zoom. I have never tried Honorlock, as I have heard from a few profs (and some students) who used it and were not comfortable. I use ProctorU ONLY for a (certain) class, since some fully online students can not take any tests during the scheduled time;”

WHEREAS, another FIU professor said “I would use all of these approaches in different courses …. Depending on the exam's content and whether the course is graduate or undergraduate I will choose one of these approaches for the exams.” approaches meaning Zoom, Lockdown Browser, ProctorU and Honorlock;

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COUNCIL RESOLUTION

STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL · MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS
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WHEREAS, another FIU professor said “I am not satisfied with any of the options listed, though I haven't experienced ProctorU yet. Since FIU offers students free access to HonorLock, that is what I'm currently using with all my classes. What I require is for students to set up their webcams in such a way that both of student's face and hands are captured by the camera so that their test taking behaviors can be recorded clearly and unambiguously….This seems to be the best I could do with HonorLock for now.” options meaning Zoom, Lockdown Browser, ProctorU and Honorlock;

WHEREAS, in an online survey distributed by Senator Magee, 322 students voted on what platform should be used for testing [7];

WHEREAS, students were given the choice to select as many of the four testing sites as they saw fit;

WHEREAS, 20 out of 322 students voted for Honorlock;

WHEREAS, 261 out of 322 students voted for Lockdown Browser;

WHEREAS, 96 students voted for Zoom;

WHEREAS, 9 students voted for ProctorU;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused students to endure a great amount of stress and the continued use of the Honorlock system is not required by any College and is only used at the discretion of the professor;

WHEREAS, new.fiu.edu stated that “Since CAPS began operating fully remotely in response to the closure of campus, an average of 250 student consultations per week have taken place, which

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includes appointments with a psychologist or psychiatrist as well as group therapy. This accounts for about 80 percent of the usual volume of on-campus consultations.” [8];

WHEREAS, Lockdown Browser is an FIU-sponsored online testing platform that could be used as a free alternative to the Honorlock System;

WHEREAS, Zoom could be an online testing alternative to the Honorlock System;

WHEREAS, Lockdown Browser could be used for regular exams and Zoom could be used for final exams;

WHEREAS, the use of the Honorlock System should be pushed back and used in the Spring of 2021.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Senate of the Student Government Association of the Modesto A. Maidique Campus of Florida International University assembled, that FIU SGA is in support of Lockdown Browser and Zoom being used as the default platform during this Covid-19 Pandemic Period for exams and supports the administration of exams through Third Party Proctoring programs upon the student’s request.

SECTION 4. Enforcement

Upon the passage of this Council Resolution by the SGC-MMC Senate, and its approval by the SGC-MMC President, this shall become the official law and opinion of the SGC-MMC.


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COUNCIL RESOLUTION
STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ∙ MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS
THE 37TH SESSION OF THE STUDENT SENATE

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which-blatantly-violates-privacy-rights
[3]https://www.change.org/p/university-of-texas-at-dallas-ask-utd-to-remove-honorlock-as-it-is-
a-violation-of-student-privacy
[4]https://www.change.org/p/chancellor-f%C3%A9lix-v-matos-rodr%C3%ADguez-do-not-let-
cuny-violate-student-privacy
[5]https://www.change.org/p/university-of-florida-stop-using-online-proctoring-sites-like-
honorlock-and-proctoru
and-give-us-alternative-examinations?source_location=topic_page
[7]https://docs.google.com/forms/d/122Fy0yRft3WMDtpG2oa9mJjfM1zJh5wh-
TiH4AW16fg/edit#responses
[8]https://news.fiu.edu/2020/2020/03/06/fiu-is-meeting-students-mental-health-needs-by-ramping-up-its-
online-offerings-during-the-pandemic

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THE 37TH SESSION OF THE STUDENT SENATE

SR3707
Professor Proctored Lockdown Browser Testing Resolution

| IN FAVOR OF: 31 | AGAINST: 0 | ABSTENTIONS: 0 |

AMENDMENTS:

APPENDED ON BACK:

SENATE ACTION
DATE: 10/19/20
PASSED

Janelle Fraga, SGC-MMC Speaker of the Senate

EXECUTIVE ACTION
DATE: 10/19/20
ENACTED

Alexandra Valdes, SGC-MMC Student Body President

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Adendum 1.00

Honorlock
20 responses

Check this box for Honorlock

20 (100%)

Addendum 1.01

**Recommendation Coding**: Words in red are recommendations by the Rules Committee.
Addendum 1.02

Zoom
96 responses

Addendum 1.03

Recommendation Coding: Words in red are recommendations by the Rules Committee. 10
Addendum 2.00

Recommendation Coding: Words in red are recommendations by the Rules Committee. 11