

The 39th Session of the Student Body Senate

Florida International University

Miami, Florida

S.R. 03 007

Aquatic Quality Urgent Activities Act

IN THE SENATE

March 13, 2023

Business Senator Matthew Gaynor, Business Senator Aleck Estrada Arzamendi, Business Senator Ian Lares Chacin, Housing Senator Alexander Stone, and CARTA Senator Isabel Quintanilla introduced the following resolution, which was presented on the Senate floor:

A RESOLUTION

To show support from Florida International University's Student Government Association, that the student body desires the modification and expansion of aquatic recreational sports and activities on the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University assembled,



Matthew Gaynor



Aleck Estrada Arzamendi



Ian Lares Chacin



Alexander Stone



Isabel Quintanilla

Whereas, one of the only aquatic activities that is open to all FIU students is the MMC Housing pool, which is of an inadequate size for a student body of 56,000, and out of the 56,000 FIU students, around ten percent are currently living at MMC;

Whereas, for the past few years, the Wellness and Recreation Center and MMC Housing have proposed their own modifications and expansions to the Housing Quad's aquatic sports and activities;

Whereas, after Tamiami Hall was completed in the Fall of 2022, the Wellness and Recreation Center and MMC Housing planned on collaborating to reconstruct the entire greenery of the MMC housing quad area;

Whereas, there is an urgent need for remodeling and expanding the aquatic sports and activities at the Modesto Maidique Campus, which should include, but should not be limited to, a larger pool for students to swim and perform laps in, one or more saunas for FIU students to recover from any mental or physical hardships they have endured, and one or more hot tubs for students to have another way to relax and enjoy leisure time with friends or by themselves;

Whereas, a February 2023 student body survey, which was conducted by Student Government Association Titled: "Pool Expansion", found that out of 110 completed surveys, 105 answered yes and 5 answered no on the question "Would you be interested in the pool at MMC pool to receive an expansion?", 84 answered yes and 26 answered no on "Would you like the expanded pool to have swimming lanes?", 102 answered yes and 8 said no on "Inside the expansion, would you want the pool area to have hot tubs?", and 105 answered yes and 5 said no on "Inside of the expansion, would you want the pool area to include a sauna?";

Whereas, there is precedent for other Florida schools to include hot tubs and saunas, such as with the University of Miami and the University of West Florida, which both have hot tubs and saunas;

Whereas, Florida State University has saunas but no hot tubs, and the University of Florida has hot tubs, but has no saunas;

Whereas, these newly installed aquatic sports and activities will be overseen by both the Wellness and Recreation Center and the MMC Housing, because they co-jointly operate the already existing MMC pool;

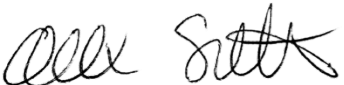

Whereas, both the Wellness and Recreation Center and the MMC Housing will set up any rules or regulations for how these new aquatic facilities are used by the student body;

Whereas, Student Government Association is the face and voice for all FIU students, and shall support any department that wants to modify and expand the aquatic facilities at the Modesto Maidique Campus;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Student Body will support any department, which could include the Wellness and Recreation Center and MMC Housing, that is interested in expanding and modifying the existing MMC Housing pool, along with adding one or more hot tubs, one or more saunas, swimming lanes, and any other aquatic installations that could be constructed in the greenery of the Housing Quad or in another location.

Senate Resolution Transmission Form

This resolution is presented by the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University. It is presented by the Senate President Pro-Tempore and affixed with the signature of the Senate President. Both the Senate President and the Senate President Pro-Tempore affirm that the information presented below is accurate and that the resolution has successfully passed in the Senate of the Student Body. The resolution is presented on this day and at this hour for signature or veto.

<i>SR 03 007</i>			
Date Introduced:	<i>09/05/2022</i>		
Committees Assigned:	(1) Student Life and Academic Concerns (2) Rules and Administration		
Vote in Committee 1:	<i>4</i> <i>For</i>	<i>2</i> <i>Against</i>	<i>0</i> <i>Abstaining</i>
Vote in Committee 2:	<i>4</i> <i>For</i>	<i>0</i> <i>Against</i>	<i>0</i> <i>Abstaining</i>
Vote on the Senate Floor:	<i>32</i> <i>For</i>	<i>0</i> <i>Against</i>	<i>4</i> <i>Abstaining</i>
			
Signature of the Senate President	Signature of the Senate President Pro-Tempore		

FIU
Student Government
Association
Office of the
Student Body President

Memorandum S.R. 03 007

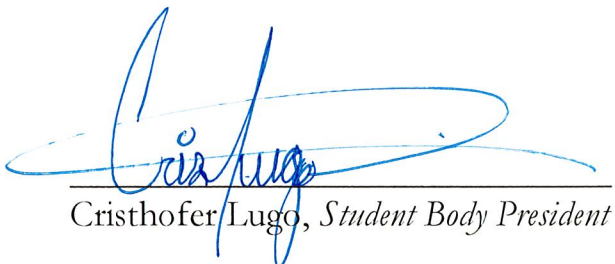
By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the Statutes of the Student Body at Florida International University, I hereby vetoed SR 03 007 this Monday, March 20, 2023.

The Aquatic Quality Urgent Activities Act (AQUA Act) is a commendable initiative with several noteworthy merits. I extend my appreciation to the Senators who conducted the necessary research for this legislation. However, upon a thorough review, I have been compelled to veto this resolution due to several critical issues that need to be addressed.

- Firstly, the survey conducted to gather data for the resolution was inadequate, as only 2.75% of the on-campus student population responded. To ensure a more accurate representation of student opinion, I would suggest expanding the survey to encompass 10% - 15% of the students living on campus.
- Secondly, the resolution lacks any information regarding the sources of funding or cost estimates for the proposed items. This level of project necessitates the involvement of architects, designers, and construction professionals, among others. Thus, it is imperative to provide more detail about the project's process, including cost estimates.
- Lastly, the resolution includes a clause signifying that the hot tubs, saunas, and other aquatic installations be built in the greenery of the Housing Quad. However, it is worth noting that the Student Government Association cannot determine where construction should occur. That responsibility lies with the Board of Trustees.

I would like to urge the sponsors of this legislation to conduct further research on the proposed items, provide cost estimates, and expand the survey to include more students. Additionally, I suggest that the language of the resolution be revised to a recommendation for the Wellness and Recreation and FIU Housing and Residential Life departments, rather than a requirement. This approach would allow for greater flexibility and more comprehensive input from all stakeholders.

Sincerely,

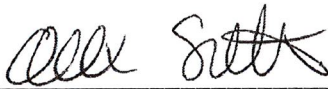

Cristhofer Lugo, *Student Body President*



Presidential Signature of a Senate Resolution

On this day, at this time, and in this place, the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University does hereby present this resolution to the desk of the President of the Student Body for signature or veto. The Senate has passed this resolution and all its accompaniments, in accordance with the Constitution and Statutes of the Student Government Association at Florida International University. It is presented in good faith, whereas the officers of the Senate have affixed their signatures to affirm that the resolution has followed due procedure and is valid. The Senate will await your decision.

SR 03 007



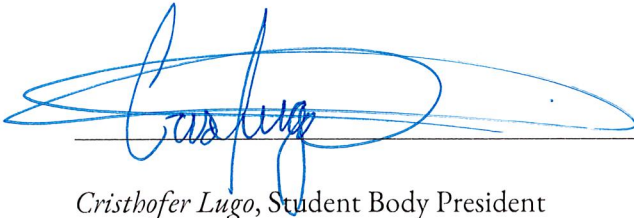
Alexander P. Sutton, Senate President



Zachary Stangl, Senate President Pro-Tempore



Fernando Melara, Senate Floor Leader



Cristhofer Lugo, Student Body President

Approved

Vetoed

VETOED

VETO OVERRIDDEN ON APRIL 3, 2023
24 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining