

The 40th Session of the Student Body Senate

Florida International University

Miami, Florida

S.R. 04 005

Fair Housing For All: Prioritizing International Students and Upperclassmen at FIU

IN THE SENATE

October 20, 2023

Senate President Pro-Tempore Tiara Campbell, Housing Senator Rhea Watkins, CASE Senator Anastasia Legouté, SIPA Senator Mikele Mancuso, and Honors Senator Anish Sharma introduced the following Resolution, which was presented on the Senate floor:

A RESOLUTION

A Resolution for The International Students, Juniors and Seniors That Were Forced To Find Housing Off Campus In The Semester of Fall 2023.

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

Whereas, during the academic year of 2023-2024, International Students and Upperclassmen were not given housing priority by the FIU Housing Department.

Whereas, a surge in the enrollment of freshmen at FIU has led to a housing prioritization that disadvantages International Students and Upperclassmen.

Whereas, the current housing policies fail to adequately address the housing needs of International Students, compelling them to seek off-campus housing, which often proves unfeasible, as most international students do not meet the requirements such as a credit score, a job to demonstrate financial capability, a social security number, a bank account, etc.

Whereas, the current housing policies also neglect the housing needs of Upperclassmen, pushing them toward off-campus housing which causes financial constraints.

Whereas, the Housing Department's decision to reassign Everglades Hall and Tamiami Hall for the academic year of 2024-2025 as first-year and Sophomore dorms, respectively, leaves University Apartments as the primary option for most International Students and Upperclassmen.

Whereas, the Student Government Association has a responsibility to advocate for the well-being and interests of the student body.

Whereas, the Student Government Association is dedicated to ensuring that all students, including International Students, have access to accessible and affordable on-campus housing.

Whereas, the Student Government Association vehemently opposes the existing housing policies that neglect the housing needs of International Students and fail to provide sufficient housing options for juniors and seniors.

Whereas, the Student Government Association firmly opposes any changes to housing policies that further exacerbate the housing challenges faced by International Students and Upperclassmen.

Whereas, the Student Government Association resolves to collaborate with FIU Housing and Residential Experience, to address these housing issues and seek viable solutions.



Whereas, the Student Government Association commits to actively engaging in discussions, advocacy, and policy development to promote fair and equitable housing opportunities for all students at FIU.

Now Therefore, the Senate of the Student Body urges the FIU Housing Department to transparently share their plan for expanding housing with the student community;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Student Body, that it acknowledges the profound impact of these housing issues on the international and upperclassmen communities and strongly urges FIU Housing and Residential Experience to prioritize the housing needs of international students and upperclassmen at FIU.

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 04 005</i>			
Date Introduced:	<i>10/20/2023</i>		
Committees Assigned:	(1) International Students Ad-Hoc Committee (2) Rules and Administration Committee		
International Students Ad-Hoc Committee: <i>10/26/2023</i>	3 <i>For</i>	1 <i>Against</i>	0 <i>Abstaining</i>
Rules and Administration: <i>11/06/2023</i>	5 <i>For</i>	0 <i>Against</i>	0 <i>Abstaining</i>
Vote on the Senate Floor: <i>11/13/2023</i>	25 <i>For</i>	0 <i>Against</i>	1 <i>Abstaining</i>
 _____ Signature of the Senate President		 _____ Signature of the Senate President Pro Tempore	

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 the resolution has followed due procedure and is valid. The Senate will await your decision.

SR 04 005



Kaily LaChapelle, Senate President



Tiara Campbell, Senate President Pro-Tempore



Karina Hernandez, Senate Floor Leader



Alexander Sutton, Student Body President