

**The 40th Session of the Student Body Senate**

**Florida International University**

**Miami, Florida**

**S.R. 04 008**

*The Standardized Housing Safety Procedures Act*

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IN THE SENATE

January 15, 2024

*Senator Alex Stone, FIU Police Department Chief Alexander Casas, and Director of Housing and Residential Andrew Naylor introduced the following bill, which was presented on the Senate floor*

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**A RESOLUTION**

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

**Warning: This bill may contain content deemed as inappropriate or may be triggering to some individuals. Discretion is advised.**

**Whereas,** Florida International University is a University comprised of over 56,000 students, of which, nearly 4,000 students live on campus.

**Whereas,** Florida International University does not have a standardized procedure shared between the Department of Housing and Residential Experience (FIU HRE) and the Florida International University Police Department (FIU PD).

**Whereas,** a total of 21,200 criminal incidents were reported in 2020 alone through the Clery Act, of which 9,400 forcible sex offenses, 6,800 burglaries, 2,500 motor vehicle, 1,500 aggravated assaults, 500 robberies, 400 arsons and approximately 3,800 university housing fires each year were reported on college campuses in the United States of America alone.

**Whereas,** there is no set and standardized procedure for the implementation of panic buttons, and/or emergency route procedures.

**Whereas,** there are countless scenarios in which one could argue that the placement of panic buttons is necessary if not absolutely essential in housing, especially when it comes to housing residential rooms and front desk and/or lobby areas.

**Whereas,** there are also many other arguments to be had when it comes to the placement of generalized emergency routes to be added into the common areas.

**Whereas,** every room currently in University housing has an emergency button placed in their common areas, as well as an informative plaque that provides Residents with FIU PD.

**Now Therefore,** the Senate of the Student Body proposes to establish a more integrated working relationship between Florida International University's Department of Housing and Residential Experience (Housing) and Florida International University's Department of Police (FIU PD). This proposal aims to standardize safety procedures that both departments can agree upon.



In the event of an incident requiring the response of FIU PD, at least one (1) officer shall liaise with designated Housing staff on-site, such as the Residential Assistant (RA), Building Assistant (BA), Assistant Residential Experience Coordinator (AREC), or the Residential Experience Coordinator (REC). This will facilitate accurate and concise incident reporting on both ends.

In all university housing accommodations, regardless of bedroom or bathroom count (e.g., studios, one-bedroom, one-bathroom REC/AREC accommodations, and all other Florida International University Housing and Residential Experience accommodations), there shall be one (1) emergency button placed in the common area in every new dorm, directly connecting to the FIU PD emergency phone number. Additionally, one (1) emergency button shall be placed in the front desk and or lobby areas to deter false alarms in every new dorm. To prevent unproductive use of time and resources, each button or plate shall require a double tap or combination tap for activation.

Furthermore, every residence will contain one (1) magnet which will be placed on the refrigerator found in the student living accommodations displaying a generalized image of the housing building in which the resident resides, along with escape routes and other alternative routes for informational purposes.

### 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.

<b>SR 04 008</b>			
Date Introduced:	10/27/2023		
Committees Assigned:	(1) University Sustainability and Innovation (2) Rules and Administration		
Vote in Committee 1: 11/14/2023	<b>4</b> <i>For</i>	<b>0</b> <i>Against</i>	<b>0</b> <i>Abstaining</i>
Vote in Committee 2: 01/22/2024	<b>5</b> <i>For</i>	<b>0</b> <i>Against</i>	<b>0</b> <i>Abstaining</i>
Vote on the Senate Floor: 02/05/2024	<b>26</b> <i>For</i>	<b>0</b> <i>Against</i>	<b>1</b> <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 that the resolution has followed due procedure and is valid. The Senate will await your decision.

**SR 04 008**



Kaily Lachapelle, Senate President



Tiara Campbell, Senate President Pro-Tempore



Karina Hernandez, Senate Floor Leader



Alexander P. Sutton, Student Body President

