A Resolution to Support the Increased Use of Reusable Coffee Cups on Campus

Madeline Drenkhan (for herself, Samuel Reed, Molly Dixon, and Varsha Challapally) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee where it passed.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University, and

Whereas one of the primary goals of The Ohio State University is to promote sustainability and ensure that the campus is as environmentally conscious as possible, and

Whereas The Ohio State University aims to be carbon neutral by the year 2050,¹ and

Whereas The President and Provost’s Council on Sustainability pledges to achieve zero waste by the year 2025 by diverting 90% of waste away from landfills,² and

Whereas single-use coffee cups are not recyclable and therefore greatly contribute to university acquired waste, and

Whereas attempted recycling of single-use coffee cups contaminates recycling, and

Whereas traditional waste management accounts for 1-5% of the United States’ greenhouse gas emissions,³ and

Whereas all campus coffee shops offer a discount where customers who use any size reusable coffee cup are charged for the price of a small coffee;

Therefore Let it Be Resolved that The Undergraduate Student Government of The Ohio State University, in coordination with University Dining Services, encourages the increased use of reusable coffee cups, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that signs highlighting the discount for using a reusable cup should be put up in coffee shops to increase awareness of the discount, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that The Undergraduate Student Government encourages the introduction of coffee punch cards that would be marked for every reusable cup use and then be exchanged for a free coffee after 10 punches.

¹ http://oee.osu.edu/ohio-state-sustainability-goals.html
² http://oee.osu.edu/ohio-state-sustainability-goals.html
³ http://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/climate-change-waste/
Floor Vote: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Abby Grossman  
President

Abby Waidelich  
Vice President

Date Adopted: March 30, 2016  
Date Terminated: ______________