

56-R-24

A Resolution to Urge The Ohio State University to Expand Air Condition to all Student Dorm Rooms

Sarah Schmidt (for herself) introduced the following resolution to the Student Affairs Committee where it passed. Then, to the Steering Committee where it passed, and to the floor where it passed/failed.

* * *

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

Whereas the Ohio State University has seven residence halls on campus without air conditioning: Baker Hall East and West, Canfield Hall, Mack Hall, Bradley Hall, Mendoza Hall and Paterson Hall;¹ and

Whereas Columbus could see an additional 3 to 7 weeks per year of high temperatures exceeding 90-degree Fahrenheit and an additional 1 to 2 weeks exceeding 95 degrees Fahrenheit²; and

Whereas Indoor temperatures without air conditioning can be over 30 degrees higher than the outside temperatures due to trapped heat and lack of air circulation³; and

Whereas high temperatures pose the threat of heat-related illnesses including heat stroke and heat exhaustion⁴; and

Whereas temperature spikes are also linked to an increased in suicide rates, crime, and violence as well as anxiety and depression⁵; and

¹ <https://www.thelantern.com/2023/11/why-your-dorm-wont-have-ac-before-the-heat-returns/#:~:text=There%20are%20seven%20residence%20halls,renovated%20dorms%20have%20air%20conditioning>.

² <https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce-authors/u2192/Climate%20Changes%20and%20Impacts%20in%20Columbus%20%281%29%284%29.pdf>

³ <https://thecoolingco.com/blog/air-conditioning-in-summer/>

⁴ <https://odh.ohio.gov/media-center/feature-stories/extreme-heat>

⁵ <https://time.com/6280073/how-heatwaves-impact-your-brain/>

Whereas high temperatures are also related to poor quality of sleep, memory loss, and lack of focus⁶; and

Whereas in a study by NPR, it was found that people who slept in hotter dorm rooms performed measurably worse on tests⁷; and

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government supports and is dedicated to student well-being both physically and mentally; and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government calls on The Ohio State University to expand air conditioning to all on-campus student dorm rooms.

Floor Vote: Aye: ____ Nay: ____ Abstain: ____ Present: ____

Bobby McAlpine
President

Alex Poling
Speaker of the 56th General Assembly

Date Adopted: _____

Date Terminated: _____

⁶ <https://time.com/6280073/how-heatwaves-impact-your-brain/>

⁷ <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2023/07/31/1190627995/heat-wave-brain-mood-anxiety>