

**A Resolution to Condemn the “Sunsetting” of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programs**

Christopher Cade and Rayvon Braziel, Mohamed Ahmed, Jesus Valencia, Ezra Liu introduced the following resolution to the steering committee where it passed. Then to the floor where it passed/failed.

\* \* \*

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

**Whereas** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs play a crucial role in fostering a supportive, welcoming, and enriching environment for all students, faculty, and staff; and

**Whereas** On February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the university announced the<sup>1</sup> “sunsetting” of DEI programming, in response to the<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Education’s February 14, 2025, "Dear Colleague" letter and executive orders, and the potential passage of HB 6 (formerly SB1); and

**Whereas** The Supreme Court’s ruling in Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard (2023) prohibits race-conscious admissions policies but does not mandate the removal of DEI programs that focus on increasing accessibility, fostering inclusivity, and supporting underrepresented students; and

**Whereas** DEI programs help address systemic barriers to academic and professional success by providing mentorship, career development opportunities, cultural competency education, and mental health resources tailored to the unique challenges faced by historically marginalized students; and

**Whereas** The elimination of DEI programs could disproportionately harm students of color, first-generation students, LGBTQ+ students, international students, and other historically underrepresented groups, leading to decreased retention rates, student engagement, and overall campus well-being; and

**Whereas** The removal of DEI initiatives may negatively impact the university’s ability to attract and retain diverse talent among students, faculty, and staff, thereby reducing the university’s competitiveness in academia and industry; and

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<sup>1</sup> [Ohio State to close two DEI offices, eliminate 16 staff positions](#)

<sup>2</sup> [dear-colleague-letter-sffa-v-harvard-109506.pdf](#)

**Whereas** A diverse and inclusive campus fosters critical thinking, cross-cultural collaboration, and a richer educational experience for all students, thereby enhancing the university’s mission to prepare students for leadership in an increasingly diverse and globalized world; and

**Therefore, Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government strongly opposes the preemptive compliance and closure of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Center for the Belonging and Social Change, and any other changes that negatively impact the student body; and

**Let it Further Be Resolved** that we urge the university administration to reconsider this decision in favor of maintaining DEI initiatives until an official mandate from the federal government is sent out as the executive orders and statements made from the DoE OCR are being challenged in the courts; and

**Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government calls on The Ohio State University to host public Q&A sessions to allow for students to have their questions on the changes coming to our university be answered, and to allow for students to be included in the decision-making processes on the changes coming to our university.

Floor Vote: Aye: \_\_\_\_ Nay: \_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_ Present: \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby McAlpine  
President

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George Bernard  
Speaker of the 57<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

Date Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_