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**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
Fall 2017, Session 12  
November 1st, 2017

## **I. Opening**

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
  - i. Max Littman.127 for Kanas
  - ii. Mahmoud El-Khatib.13 for Virani
  - iii. Emma Kate Sowder.17 for Smith, Maddie
  - iv. Chris Funk.206 for Vargo
  - v. Kurt Shaffer.518 for Donnelly
- d. Approval of Minutes

## **II. Open Forum for the Public**

- a. *Sophie Chang:*
  - i. *Daniel Pohlod.2:* Hi everyone my name is Daniel Pohlod, and I am a second year student studying finance here at OSU. I just want to encourage you all to support the Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus. I mean it's free speech. I don't think anyone is really opposed to that. It is pretty straight forward. If two members of the city's house of representatives see this issue important enough to go out of their way to create a bill for it, I hope you do see this as important as well.
  - ii. *Abby Draiss.2:* Hi everyone. My name is Abby and I am a sophomore here at OSU. I just want to encourage you all to support the Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech



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Act and Free Speech on Campus. I firmly believe in the rights of the First Amendment. I believe in the idea that there should be rich and diverse conversations on campus and that all topics provide a learning experience for all students involved. These opportunities should not be taken away just because some opinions are different. All opinions have meaning and importance and are imperative for the learning experience on campus. I encourage you all to vote yes on this resolution and pass with unanimous consent.

- iii. *Devin Bilski.6:* Hi everyone my name is Devin Bilski. For those who don't know me, I ran the Brooks Brother's campaign last year. Hashtag "Out with the Crooks". But that's not what I am here to talk about today. I am also here to speak in favor of the resolution support the Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus. Free speech is the hallmark of not only America, but pretty much every place in the world. In places that there is no free speech, freedom dies. And right now, many of you may not see it, because they tend to challenge a certain group of people with speech rights on campus, but I see it everyday when I try to organize events on campus. I am not allowed to use certain locations that are widely open because they don't like what I am going to say. I think it is very vital that we pass this resolution because we need to let the people at the House know that we here at Ohio State believe everybody,



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whether we agree with them or not, has the right to voice their opinion. Please vote in favor of this resolution.

- iv. *Sean Honesty.22*: Hi everyone! My name is Sean Honesty, and I am a second year at the Ohio State University. I know it is not my place to tell you to vote yes or no to this resolution. I hope to remind you that as GA senators, that you are representing every single student at the Ohio State University. As you are representing all of the students, I want to remind you that they are students first, and with free speech on campus, I want to make sure that it does not infringe on education of those who are actually here to learn. Please just keep that in mind when you vote on this resolution.
- v. *James Smith.11124*: Hello! For those of you that haven't met me yet, I am a second year student at the Ohio State University. I am in full support for the Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus. I recently had the honor of being at a press conference with Representative Andrew Brenner who is here today, and Representative Wesley Goodman. I just want to say that as representatives of all students here on campus, it is important for you to vote on this resolution. As representatives for all students you should know that free speech has no limits or boundaries — especially at Ohio State. Every idea should be open for debate, discussion and ultimately deliberation.



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- vi. *Emily Rocha.13*: Hi. My name is Emily Rocha and I would like to urge you to Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus. I think it is important to support the students on both the left and right, and defend our constitutional rights.
- vii. *Kimmy Sullivan.924*: Hi everyone! My name is Jimmy Sullivan, and I am a third-year student at the Ohio State University. I was on GA last year, and I am just here to watch and check out what is going on today. I just want to urge you to not do things that are racist as members of the human race.

### **III. Updates**

- a. *Sophie Chang*:
  - i. If you are a member of the General Assembly and have not gotten your name tags, please come up here and do that.
  - ii. If you havent submitted your second constituency report yet, please make sure to get that done by the end of this week. Otherwise it will be posted on the USG website, and it will show that you are not fulfilling your duties as senator.

### **IV. Executive Report**

- a. *Andrew Jackson*
  - i. We are moving forward with the scholarship registry, and the Associate Deans of the Colleges are all sending in the list of all of the scholarships that are offered in their colleges. That has been going really well.



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- ii. We are moving forward with the free tampons and pads initiative. We are working on getting that piloted in the union and RPAC next semester.
- iii. We also met with President Drake earlier this week and discussed many things! One of them being the Campus Climate Survey. Just making sure that we are aware and working on sexual assault resource for students on campus. If anyone has questions, please email me, or come to my office hours.

**V. Committee Reports**

- a. Allocations Committee — *Averi Townsend*
  - i. Japanese Student Organization, in the amount of \$178.88
  - ii. Genesis Dance Team, in the amount of \$450.00
  - iii. Muslim Students Association, in the amount of \$500.00
- b. Oversight Committee  
*Michael Swaggerty — No updates.*

**VI. Old Business**

**VII. New Business**

- a. 50-R-13: A Resolution to Create a Message Box on Carmen Featuring a Statement about Mental Health Awareness and Student Life Counseling and Consultation Service
  - i. *Treglia*: So I am sure, most people know the importance of mental health awareness on a college campus. There are a couple statistics in this resolution. But there are many many more that share the prevalence, of this and it is alarming. This



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is just a way get the word out, and let students know about all of the resources that they have. I met with a few administrators of consultation services and the distance learning programs, and they are really on board with it. The box may not go exactly where it is in the picture there, but we are really optimistic about this.

- ii. *Pierson*: I agree with Treglia on this issue because as you all know, mental health is a big issue on campus. I don't know about all of you, but I use Carmen pretty much everyday. This will show students how important mental health is, and they will have the resources right there. I am in full of support of this resolution.
- iii. *Quadri*: I don't really have much to say other than what the two senators before me have said.
- iv. Smith, Nick: I get the most stressed out when I am on Carmen, and that's why I think it is important to have that message there.
- v. *Morris*: I agree with that everyone said, and am in full support of it!
- vi. *Dennen*: I think is only building on what we have already done, and a resolution that went to University Senate. This will make it better for students!

***Moved to Discussion***



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- vii. *Humayun*: I am very open about my struggles with my mental health. I think this is a great idea. I know that I reached out to CCS last year, and that it took me a while to even find where to go to. I am going to urge you to pass this with unanimous consent.
- viii. *Leeder*: I am in full support of this resolution, but I would like to propose a friendly amendment. It said “Ohio Stated” instead of “Ohio State”.

***Friendly amendment proposed***

***Amendment taken as **FRIENDLY*****

- ix. *Malpass*: **Motion** to pass with **unanimous consent**.

***Motion Seconded***

***50-R-13 **PASSED** with unanimous consent***

- x. 50-R-14: A Resolution to Make STEP More Accessible to Commuter and Transfer Students
- xi. *Nadeem*: Hi everyone! I’ve talked about this a lot I think already. But basically, this resolution is to make the STEP program more accessible for commuter and transfer students. How it works right now is that students who live on campus are automatically enrolled in STEP, whereas commuter and transfer students have to submit an application to participate for the program. The deadline to participate is early in the spring semester of their first year, and many students just don’t know about it. By the time we find out about it from



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other second years, its just too late. I as well as many of my constituents have faced this issue, and I really do not this is fair. One of my constituents sent me a message that he wanted to share tonight, “I’m sorry I could not be attendance to speak on behalf of this resolution but I would like to share my thoughts and words for being reflected into the record. My name is Mark Harper and I’m a current 4th year Political Science student here at THE Ohio State University. I transferred here as a student 2 years ago going into my second year of college. As a transfer student you feel as if you’re in the minority of the information pool about programs for education enrichment as the STEP program. To be exact, I didn’t even learn that the STEP program was a thing until about my second semester here. I thank Senator Nadeem and all sponsors of this resolution for having what seems to be a minority of our student population at mind in better integrating us within this fabulous college community. I urge the passage of the resolution so that all students like myself, who are commuters and transfers, can be better informed and have the ability to take part in this academic enrichment program.” So as we can see, this is actually a big issue for Commuter and Transfer students, and passing this resolution with unanimous consent would really show everyone that USG is here for all students.





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- xii. *Greer*: I think this resolution accounts for students that we don't always think about when it comes to opportunities STEP is academically enriching which is why it stems from the Academic Affairs committee.
- xiii. *Barnett*: I think Amraha and Kate summed it up pretty well. I would just like to add that as a student that is in STEP, it is a pretty transformative experience. Commuter students should have this opportunity as well.
- xiv. *Malpass*: I agree with what they all said, and I believe we should pass with unanimous consent.

***Moved to Questions***

- xv. *Smith*: Just kinda just like a future question I guess. What are the other steps that will make it more accessible for commuter and transfer students? Is there anything else or is that it?
- xvi. *Nadeem*: I was thinking we could have list of commuter students an email out to and get their interest in the program as well.
- xvii. *Cromes*: Would it be on the same timeline as students on campus?
- xviii. *Nadeem*: My idea was that it would be the same thing! There is no need to have a different deadline for commuters.

***Moved to Discussion***

- xix. Humayun: ***Motion*** to pass with unanimous consent.

***Motion Seconded***



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**50-R-14 PASSED with unanimous consent**

- b. 50-R-15: A Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus
- i. *Davis:* Fellow Senators, thank you for hearing my resolution today. I would not be bringing this resolution, A Resolution to Support the Ohio Campus Free Speech Act and Free Speech on Campus, if I didn't think it would be beneficial and have a positive effect on all of us and our campus as a whole. This resolution has two parts. First, recognizes the support of the Undergraduate Student Government, thus the undergraduate student body, of Ohio House Bill 363, the Ohio Campus Free Speech Bill. The bill is currently going through the Ohio General Assembly, first in the House, and is sponsored by two wonderful Representatives, Representatives Wesley Goodman and Andrew Brenner. The bill, as you can see in my resolution, includes the following:
1. It requires Ohio public universities to develop a free speech policy, educate students, faculty, and administrators on the policy, and enforce said policy
  2. Prohibits universities from taking action that limits or chills the expression of any member or invited guest
  3. Declares generally accessible areas traditional public forums and prohibits universities from limiting expression in those areas



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4. Prevents the heckler's veto
  5. Makes student activity fees optional
  6. Allows those aggrieved by violations to bring cause of action against the institution
  7. Also protects universities by providing clear guidance on campus speech issues
- ii. *Davis continued:* This bill directly affects everything you and I do on campus, and protects it. Second, this resolution calls on our university to create a free speech policy, educate people on it, and enforce it. This policy would include the guarantee of the aforementioned points as well as a commitment by the university to support and encourage any freedom of expression and how they will carry out the enforcement of our rights. As mentioned in the resolution, a free and open exchange of speech and ideas is critical to maximizing educational experiences and preparing students to be engaging citizens. By allowing the hampering of speech and expression, by starting on the slippery slope of deciding who is allowed to speak and who isn't, by shutting down or preventing anyone who we do not agree with from speaking, we are closing ourselves off to adverse, and diverse, opinions. We are isolating ourselves and leaving no room for us to grow as individuals or as a society. By being challenged in our beliefs through the process of free speech, discussion, and



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debate, not through censorship, free people are allowed to flourish. This is what our country was founded on. I strongly feel that House Bill 363 will have a prolonged positive effect on all public universities in Ohio. I believe it is the smart and sensible thing for the Undergraduate Student Government to show our support for this common sense legislation, thus showing our constituents that we support the open dialogue of any and all speech, ideas, and discussion. Being a piece of pending legislation that directly affects us on campus in most everything we do, it is very important that we show our support. Thank you for your time and I look forward to answering any questions. May I please yield some time for Representative Brenner to speak?

- iii. *Brenner*: Thank you for allowing me to speak here this evening. I would just encourage everyone to support free speech. This my no means means that you are supporting racism or bigoted opinions. This is just making sure that everyone have the support of Free Speech. Nick has done an outstanding the job explaining the bill, and I appreciate the opportunity to be here this evening.
- iv. *Chang*: Thank you for being here tonight.

*Moved to Questions*

- v. Smith, Nick: I just had a quick question regarding Section 3, subsection A of the House Bill. It talks about the student



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activity fee and how it must be used in non-ideological way for any particular view points. However, as it states on the website, the Student Activity fee can be used by student organizations for events like cultural events, or non-sporting events, and many other community initiatives offered on and off campus. Some of these events are actually not put on by Ohio State, and could be supportive of viewpoints. However since Ohio State cannot decline based on ideals, should the activity fee stop covering all cultural events, non-sporting events, or community service initiatives? All of which have been proven to benefit students' college experience?

- vi. *Chang*: What that a question?
- vii. *Smith, Nick*: Yeah it was, should the activity fee stop covering all cultural events, non-sporting events, or community service initiatives? All of which have been proven to benefit students' college experience?
- viii. *Davis*: It is not my responsibility to decide what they can and cannot fund. However I believe that this clause, in the actual bill was to make sure that student activity fee encompasses all ideas. Not saying that we can't do this at all, we just want to make sure that it is funding all ideas. So that one specific ideology is not being focused on and leaving out others. It is saying to fund a well-rounded ideas.



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- ix. Smith: I guess, since this resolution seems to be in full support of House Bill 363, how would you distinguish the fact that your resolution is not saying.
- x. Davis: Once again, it is not my job to tell the university what they can spend their money on. I am just trying to say that they should make it more well-rounded.
- xi. McKenzie: I understand that this House Bill 363 is on the floor right now, but other than that, what is the specific reason? Did you talk to any constituents? Were you reached out to? Were constituents like theres not enough free speech on campus? How did this come about?
- xii. Davis: Free speech as been an issue for the last year and a half on this campus. There are many different incidences. Last year with the elections, and currently with the divide between different groups of people in this country. There are many examples of Free Speech being shut down on many different campuses all across the country. While it hasn't been terrible here, there are still issues that I have dealt with myself. I feel like it is better to get the ground running before we have to deal with anything actually bad.
- xiii. Bowels: I had a question about the hecklers veto. I am curious if this bill were to pass. Would it allow a speaker like Richard Spencer to speak? I am curious because in my opinion, Ohio State is a place of free speech that is entitled to students. I am



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wondering if this resolutions is supporting the free speech of students and not other people.

- xiv. Chang: Please keep discussion with discussion and questions with questions. If you have a question, please directly ask it.
- xv. Davis: Yeah. So basically, this resolution and the House Bill in the House of Representatives currently is protecting the freedom of speech not just for students, but for everyone. At this end of the day, this is a tax payer funded university, paid for by the tax payers of Ohio. All people, students or not, have the right to speech. All speech. If he wants to speak here, I say let him. I disagree with everything he says and I think he's an absolutely disgusting human being, but that doesn't mean he shouldn't be allowed to speak his opinions. There's a popular saying that goes "it's better to keep your mouth shut and have people think you're stupid than to open it and remove all doubt." So to this I say let him remove all doubt.
- xvi. Shaffer: Was the idealization, writing, or any part of the creation of this legislation in any way influenced by an organization whose primary membership body, focus, or goals rest outside of the realm of the Undergraduate body of the Ohio State University?
- xvii. Davis: The idea was all my own. There was no outside political organization that came to me, and wanted me to support this. This is all my own.



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- xviii. Weller: I withdraw.
- xix. Quadri: Does the sponsor of this resolution think that this resolution is political?
- xx. Davis: No. I am not sure at what point the topic of free speech became political or controversial, nor do I understand why. I think that's silly considering it's what our country was founded on and is a cornerstone of our great country. There is nothing "political about it." The political party of the representatives sponsoring the bill in the Ohio legislature shouldn't matter. USG is supposed to be a non-political organization, and we constantly preach "bipartisanship." If this is actually the case, why should their party matter? I submit to you that it doesn't, because this bill, and my resolution, doesn't have a political party. It's common sense stuff that is above petty politics. Voting no on this because of political affiliation is against what USG says it's for.
- xxi. Quadri: How can it not be political if it is a resolution supporting a House Bill with deals with our own state government?
- xxii. Davis: I think you are confused between policy and politics. There is a big difference. Politics is the two party system and making deals. Policy is what this resolution is about. It is the policy that I support. This policy of free speech for all people.





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- xxiii. Sockwell: Since the university has a budget that is set aside for the security team on campus. Do you think that the university should be held accountable if they see that they cannot fit the need for a speakers on campus to fit their budget.
- xxiv. Davis: If it were up to me, there would not be a security fee. People would be be mature enough to not protest and riot when someone they disagree with comes to campus. It is up to the campus to figure out how to pay for the security fees. When i hosted a speaker last fall, they charged my student organization for security fee. Especially if it is a student organization that is inviting a speaker to campus, the university should make sure the speaker is allowed to speak?
- xxv. Sockwell: You said earlier that you think it is stupid for someone to go after them speaking. I know I am paraphrasing what you said. But, do you think that this is a reasonable answer given the fact that we want to protect those who come to campus? The university has a liability when they allow people to speak on campus.
- xxvi. Davis: What was the question?
- xxvii. Sockwell: You said earlier that you think it is stupid for someone to go after them speaking. I know I am paraphrasing what you said. But, do you think that this is a reasonable



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answer given the fact that we want to protect those who come to campus?

- xxviii. Davis: I don't think I used the word stupid. The only time I used the word stupid was in the popular saying. I think the university has an obligation to let a speaker speak and the university also has the obligation to keep the speaker safe.
- xxix. Sockwell: But if the university cannot afford it, what should be done?
- xxx. Davis: The university should find a way to make sure the speaker is allowed to speak. I think you guys are thinking this resolution is to allow a specific speaker to the chance to speak on campus. That is not the purpose of this resolution. The purpose of this is to support free speech in general.
- xxxi. Cromes: Can you point to anything in the Student Code of Conduct or anywhere that says that you can get in viable trouble just for speaking?
- xxxii. Davis: I don't understand what you are trying to say.
- xxxiii. Crome: I am just asking is there anything that is saying you can get in trouble.
- xxxiv. Davis: I don't think I ever said that there was.
- xxxv. Davis, Imani: Going back to the student activity fee, were there any specific events that you thought were not supported which caused you to include that in the resolution?



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- xxxvi. Davis, Nick: I think that there are a could student organization activists that came to mind thinking about this. But that is not a conversation I was to have tonight, because they are very specific. What was the other question?
- xxxvii. Davis, Imani: How do you feel that making the student activity fee optional would help this?
- xxxviii. Davis, Nick: I think there are two issue. One is the part of making it optional. It is a minimum fee, but that is making college a little more affordable for people. Making it optional does not affect what it can be used for?
- xxxix. Davis, Imani: Why is it included in the resolution?
- xl. Davis, Nick: Because it is included in the original House Bill.
- xli. Davis, Imani: Why is it in the House Bill?
- xlii. Davis, Nick: I did not write the House Bill, and I do not there this is a connection between making student fee optional and funding student organizations.
- xliii. Barnett: Withdraw.
- xliv. El-Khatib for Virani: In reference to the Heckler's Veto. Basically what I want to understand is where the line is drawn. I understand the need for free speech, but could there be a line drawn? Where there is a clear incitation for an action that would be against the law at large.
- xlv. Davis: It is not my job today to say what that line is. In my opinion, if someone wants to come on campus and said that —



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like the oval preacher that comes on campus and say that you are going to hell. But if someone says I am going to do this violent think to you, or encourages you to do it to someone else. At that point, it becomes an issue not of free speech but of violence. Again, that is not for me to decide.

- xlvi. Bowerman: I notice that all of the co-sponsors, if not all, are Republicans. While I completely agree with free speech in general, is it appropriate for Ohio State to clearly support the views of one political party?
- xlvii. Davis: So you agree with this resolution, but don't want to agree because a lot of the co-sponsors are Republican?
- xlviii. Bowerman: I did not say that.
- xlix. Davis: The political party of the representatives co-sponsoring this bill shouldn't matter. The political party of the representatives sponsoring the bill in the Ohio legislature shouldn't matter. USG is supposed to be a non-political organization, and we constantly preach "bipartisanship." If this is actually the case, why should their party matter? I submit to you that it doesn't, because this bill, and my resolution, doesn't have a political party. It's common sense stuff that is above petty politics. Voting no on this because of political affiliation is against what USG says it's for.
- 1. Swaggerty: I see a lot of people in this room who come from different but relevant organizations on campus. One of the



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guests you even yielded your own time too, so I am curious as to whom may have advised and aided you in the drafting of this resolution?

- li. Davis: As you can see, I am the only sponsor for this bill. I wrote this 100% by myself. No one helped me. No one pushed me. All my own words.
- lii. Swaggerty: OSU has done an inadequate job so far of insuring that students voices are heard?
- liii. Davis: Ohio State has not been as bad as some of the other schools. We do a pretty good job but we can always do better.
- liv. Dennen: What is your understanding of the undergraduate student activity fee?
- lv. Davis: It is a fee that we all pay. It is \$37.50. From there the university, OUAB, and USG uses the activity fee to host speakers and events, as well as do what we do here in USG and help fund student organizations.
- lvi. Dennen: Why do you think that it is appropriate in any way yo make this an optional? I sit in allocations every week that preaches diversity, open engagement, and discussion. By making it optional, you are diminishing the free speech that you are advocating.
- lvii. Davis: If you are voting no on my resolution because of the one provision in the actual bill that makes student activity fees optional, then you completely miss the point and are voting



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for the wrong reasons. Making the student activity fee optional does not eliminate the student activity fee. It is optional, and I can guarantee you that a vast, vast majority of students will still pay it. Making the fee optional, though minimal, reduces costs for students. We all ran on the idea of “affordability” when we campaigned to represent students here at Ohio State, and this gives students the option to make college a little bit more affordable for them. If we’re concerned we will lose money to run USG because of this. President Drake just received a \$208,000 bonus. That is enough money to pay every penny for two students to attend Ohio State in full for free. This is on top of an already over \$800,000 salary that President Drake already receives. This enough to fund over half of another clock tower. So if we’re looking for money, I think we know a good place to start.

- lviii. Chang: Please keep the discussion relevant. President Drake’s salary is not relevant.
- lix. McKenzie: Was this resolution a respond in any way to the university denying Richard Spencer?
- lx. Davis: No.
- lxi. Malpass: Did any representative, past or current, approach you about writing this?
- lxii. Davis: Nope. Not at all.



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- lxiii. Malpass: Didn't you just say that the reason the activity fee is in there is because it is in the House Bill, but you don't want to make this political?
- lxiv. Davis: I would like to refer back to what I said about the difference policy and politics.
- lxv. Quadri: So earlier the sponsor was saying that this isn't targeted towards a specific speaker, and I believe you in that. But earlier, the sponsor was saying for example if Richard Spencer wanted to speak here, they should be allowed. Then I ask you, if members of ISIS and Al-Qaeda wanted to speak on campus, should they be allowed?
- lxvi. Davis: Sure. As long as they are not harming anyone, and not calling for violence.
- lxvii. Weller: Withdrawn.
- lxviii. Humayun: Motion to cap the speakers list.

***Motion seconded***

***Motion passed***

- lxix. Al-Katib: I was wondering if you could clarify a few things. First of all there was a senator's question about the ISIS and Al-Qaeda thing. The sponsor said sure, as long as they don't preach violence. This goes back to the question that I asked earlier. Some of these people, might be preaching for others to be marginalized. The second is I was wondering if you could



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yield to the representative. What kind of speech would you like to see more of that is not there already?

- lxx. Davis: I would like to decline your offer to yield my time to the representative. However, as I mentioned, at some point, it becomes an issue of violence. It is not my job to determine where that line is. That is the job of the university and of the state.
- lxxi. Chang: Representative Brenner, would you like to speak?
- lxxii. Brennen: Well I guess the question I have for the government is why would anyone be against the first amendment? If I want to stand up and speak about any particular topic. As long as I am not encouraging to kill somebody, or do harm to others, then that should be open to speech. Once you start telling some you should not be allowed to say this, you have infringed on their first amendment rights. Whether someone is from “Black Lives Matter” whose policies I may disagree with, or some right nut extreme racist group, as long as they are not preaching violence, they should be able to share those ideas. With peace, love, logic and reason. That’s what you should be doing as a student body — you need to use the better ideas to challenge those that are bad. But if you don't have open dialogue, and you don't allow people in that you disagree with, then you don't have freedom of speech. You have a form of fascism.





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- lxxiii. El-Katib: Your answer was more towards the discussion, and not my question. I will restate it again, but what kind of speech particularly are we lacking that you would like to see more of?
- lxxiv. Brenner: Well I guess what I would like to counter with that is what speech are you afraid of?
- lxxv. Chang: This is no longer pertaining to the discussion.
- lxxvi. Post: So you said you support the Student Activity Fee becoming optional. How do you propose that Ohio State prevents the students who don't pay from attending the thousand and thousands of events that Ohio State hosts like Welcome Week, the Homecoming Parade, including events that are very traditional here at Ohio State?
- lxxvii. Davis: Football games are funded through the athletic department which has its own budget. I think that a lot of the people who wouldn't pay the student activity fee are people that wouldn't attend anyways. Events that are ticketed like the Welcome Week concert and a lot of the OUAB events should only go to those who pay the fee.
- lxxviii. Post: How do you think this is fair to students who so pay the fee? How do you think that is fair, especially as we are talking about free speech and the ability to have equal access to all opportunities.
- lxxix. Davis: people I like to think that people have integrity.



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- lxxx. Mohamed: Withdrawn.
- lxxx. Quadri: Withdrawn.
- lxxxii. Hao: I think this needs discussion of mental health. As an international student, I am aware that there is a very diverse population on campus. What will you do to protect students if there is free speech with no boundaries?
- lxxxiii. Davis: If you disagree with someone that is speaking on the oval. Try to avoid the Oval. If you disagree with someone who is speaking at a room in the Union, then try avoiding that room in the Union. We are mature enough to know where to go, and where not to go. I am not going to sensor someone people someone else is going to feel uncomfortable. That is the point of this resolution.
- lxxxiv. Davis, Imani: Do you feel that the Student Activity fee is related or unrelated to the issue of free speech?
- lxxxv. Davis, Nick: I feel they are unrelated.
- lxxxvi. Davis, Imani: You can yield this to whoever you want. But what is the point of it being in this bill when it is about free speech and not affordability?
- lxxxvii. Davis, Nick: The reason that this is in the bill is because it will hold universities accountable if they start using student organizations from holding events and bringing speakers.

***Moved to Discussion***

- lxxxviii. Smith: Motion to cap the speakers list.



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***Motion FAILED***

lxxxix. Cromes: In regards to my question earlier, I personally don't see the point of this bill because there is nothing that is against speech in particular.

xc. Dretzka: As a body have discussed the freedom of speech aspect of this bill, however we have not looked at the far more harmful aspect of it. The Ohio Campus Free Speech Act would be detrimental to our university because of the changes that it makes to the student activity fee. The main reason the bill would be harmful to Ohio State and to other institutions like it is because of the ban that it seeks to place on mandatory student activity fees. Ohio State has been able to grow from an average regional university with rolling admissions into one of the elite public institutions of America in part because of the University's focus on growing student life. Students at Ohio State feel welcome and bonded to our campus because of how the student activity fee is distributed. The fee is roughly charged as \$37.50 per semester and is paid by every student on campus. That is roughly 4.3 million per semester. The money is then distributed to almost every aspect of student life on campus, including D-tix, Buck-i-serv, OUAB, USG, pay it forward, signature events. Additionally, every registered student org. on campus is eligible to receive up to \$200 in operating funds and upto \$2,000 or \$3,000 for special events.



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Also, the fee pays for the necessary salaries to administer the students activity fee and for the Resource room in the Keith B. Key center. This bill would ban the mandatory student activity fee and instead would only allow universities to have an Opt-in only student activity fee. Going to a process like that would annihilate student activity on campus. Every group would have to have their funding cut under this plan. Additionally, this bill would reek havoc in student organizations and their events because the university would have to design a system to verify that only students that have paid their student activity fee are attending events paid for with the student activity fee. This system would literally mean excluding students from events on their own campus that they are currently paying thousands upon thousands to attend. Also, as far as I have seen and from the research that I have conducted, the student activity fee has been distributed fairly and justly across our campus. That vast majority of it is disbursed via the Council on Student Affairs, which is a subset of University Senate. The CSA is comprised on students, administrators, and faculty and by design is fair to all organizations, and all of it's meeting dates and locations are posted on OSU's website. Furthermore, we have had a wide range of speakers and individuals of all political stripes speak at the university in recent years, including Edward Snowden, Donald Trump Jr., Bernie



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Sanders, Hillary Clinton, John Kasich, Barrack Obama, Sherrod Brown, the man known as “oval preacher”, Rob Portman, David Horowitz, and Milo Yiannopolous. Richard Spencer was denied a venue on this campus not because of his views, but because of the violence that might occur if he did speak, and if that action is improper it will be sorted out by the courts. This is a bill with a faulty solution in search of a problem that patently does not exist. I strongly urge all of the members present today to vote against this resolution because of the harm that it will cause to every facet of the student experience at not only our University but across the state.

xcii. Smith, Nate: Yeah so I wanted to bring light to the heckler’s veto. However, it says that it prevents the university from “disinviting speakers”. I kind of what to clarify that Spencer requested to be invited and was denied an initiation. I think that is a little different. That is like Ohio State realizing that they didn't want to invite anyone who wanted to insight violence. This talks about disinviting speakers. In addition, I am really having issues with this resolution because of its alliance with the house bill. If you go to the House Bill, it talks about the power of schools being able to withhold the use the facilities from people who advocate by force or violence. I think this is interesting that it supports that schools are able to withhold that. In the Ohio State’s Code of Conduct



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it says that talking or endangering action that endanger the safety, physical or mental health, life of any person, can be denied. I think that if the school cannot uphold its own misconduct ruling, I find it ironic. It would be hypocritical. Since I can't get behind this change of the House Bill, I cannot get behind the actual free speech resolution. I believe they are two different issues we are dealing with. Although I am in full support of free speech, I am in no support of the House Bill, and will be voting no on the resolution. Motion to cap the speakers list.

***Motion passed — Speakers list capped.***

- xcii. Swaggerty: Reading policy is one of my favorite things to do. One of the first thing I want to know is that it is all about free speech. It thats that House Bill is fully consistent with first amendment of the constitution. In the beginning go the House Bill, it is more fiscal. It is all about finances and the activity fee. In supporting the House Bill, it would be saying that the university should have to fund and pay other people who want to speak on campus. We as students pay that activity fee for our student events. We do not pay this activity fee to other people who host events that people wont probably even go see. Especially anyone who is thinking about voting, yes to this resolution, please check what this bill is referring to Shaffer:Free speech is a hallmark of advanced civilizations. It



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has provided us with some of the most transparent governments, some of the most free nations, and some of the most advanced economies on earth. The right to offend is a hallmark of free speech. Without it, 40% of France would be owned by the Clergy still, and comedians would be hanged. However. My right to freedom of speech and the right to offend does cease at certain points. When I sign a renter's contract, many renters have clauses which prohibit me from putting political or business related fliers in plain view on their property. When i go to a dinner party (or a house party), I do not have the right to use the individual's house to proselytize my political beliefs, and I can be legally asked to leave if the owner finds me too annoying. The Ohio State University does not exist to entertain people who aim to beleaguer and annoy. Yes, oval preachers exist. To the best of my knowledge, this is a "public space", in which you may exercise your freedom of speech to almost no bounds. Beyond this single use of the phrase, however, Ohio State has the right to put limits on what is and what is not allowed. This is why we can Ohio State as an entity and Ohio State as a community does not have a constitutionally backed requirement to entertain Communists, Integralists (or "fascists"), racial purists, or any other outdated extremist belief from the 20th century. Any use of Ohio State's facilities or allowance by Ohio State for a group representing



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these ideologies reflects - whether we want it to or not - an allowance by Ohio State for these groups to exist and to spread their heinous and evil ideologies. Free Speech is an amazing right which must be handled delicately, with a civilized hand and mind. However, I am not sitting here as a full member of this body, I am sitting here in place of Erin Donnelly. Because of this, I am motioning to table this resolution indefinitely.

***50-R-15 TABLED INDEFINITELY (39-2-1)***

VIII. 5-Minute Recess for Prayer

IX. Announcements

- a. Chang: Thank you for sitting through this. I am proud of you for dealing with this resolution responsibly. However, I am disappointed in the personal attacks. If you do not have anything to say that is not constructive, you will be kicked out of the chamber. Also, to the new senators, welcome! Alternates please be sure to see Amraha afterwards.

X. Adjournment

- a. Adjourned at 8:41 pm