

**A Resolution to Support the Implementation of an Excused Absence Policy**

Zach Clark (for himself, Kimmy Sullivan, and Samer Abusway) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee, where it passed.

\* \* \*

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

**Whereas** many undergraduate students pursuing a degree at The Ohio State University often miss class due to extenuating circumstances including but not limited to job interviews, illness, graduate or professional school interviews, medical emergencies, bereavement, and family emergencies, and

**Whereas** according to rule 3335-9-21 of The Ohio State University Administrative Code: “Each department or school may make its own rules relative to occasional absences by students from scheduled activities,”<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas** according to rule 3335-9-22-C of The Ohio State University Administrative Code: “Instructors of the regularly scheduled classes which have been missed by students attending special sessions or examinations should make reasonable efforts to assist students who miss a class due to authorized absence. The instructor, however, is not obligated to provide make-up classes, laboratory exercises, field trips, or examinations,”<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas** there is currently no administrative code at The Ohio State University standardizing what an excused absence is and how it should be dealt with university-wide, and

**Whereas** the University of Maryland,<sup>2</sup> Harvard University,<sup>3</sup> University of Wisconsin,<sup>4</sup> University of Michigan,<sup>5</sup> University of Minnesota,<sup>6</sup> and University of Illinois<sup>7</sup> have excused absence policies in place;

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://trustees.osu.edu/rules/university-rules/chapter-3335-9-attendance-and-graduation.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.umd.edu/catalog/index.cfm/show/content.section/c/27/ss/1584/s/1540>

<sup>3</sup> [http://static.fas.harvard.edu/registrar/ugrad\\_handbook/current/chapter2/attendance\\_absences\\_etc.html](http://static.fas.harvard.edu/registrar/ugrad_handbook/current/chapter2/attendance_absences_etc.html)

<sup>4</sup> <https://kb.wisc.edu/lspage.php?id=24628>

<sup>5</sup> <https://lsa.umich.edu/advising/policies-procedures/class-attendance.html>

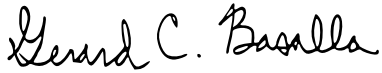
<sup>6</sup> <https://policy.umn.edu/education/makeupwork>

<sup>7</sup> [http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1\\_part5\\_1-501.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part5_1-501.html)

35 **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State  
36 University supports the implementation of a university-wide excused absence policy  
37 standardizing what constitutes an excused absence from class and how instructors should  
38 accommodate missed classwork, exams, and labs should be dealt with, and  
39

40 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State  
41 University recommends that the extenuating circumstances listed in this resolution should  
42 qualify as excused absences.  
43

44  
45 Floor Vote: Passed.  
46

47  
48   
49 \_\_\_\_\_

50 Gerard Basalla  
51 President

47  
48   
49 \_\_\_\_\_

50 Danielle Di Scala  
51 Vice President

52  
53  
54  
55 Date Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_ 2/15/17 \_\_\_\_\_

Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_