

A Resolution to Establish University Resources for Students Facing Housing Insecurities

Farhan Quadri (for himself, Savannah Sockwell, Jordan Malpass, Emma Meersman, Halima Mohamed, and Safiyo Mohamud) 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 the University has made efforts to improve affordability and educational accessibility for students, and

Whereas the mission of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee within the Undergraduate Student Government is to support, protect, and advocate for the safety and success of all students and to ensure that The Ohio State University promotes these same principles through policy and programming,¹ and

Whereas the United States Department of Health and Human Services defines a homeless individual as: “an individual who lacks housing (without regard to whether the individual is a member of a family), including an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private facility (e.g., shelters) that provides temporary living accommodations, and an individual who is a resident in transitional housing.” A homeless person is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation,² and

Whereas the United States Department of Health and Human Services also defines a homeless individual as: an individual may be considered to be homeless if that person is “doubled up,” a term that refers to a situation where individuals are unable to maintain their housing situation and are forced to stay with a series of friends and/or extended family members,² and

Whereas California State University estimated that 8 to 12 percent of its students were homeless,³ and

¹ https://usg.osu.edu/commit/issues_committees/diversity_inclusion.

² <https://www.nhchc.org/faq/official-definition-homelessness/>

³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/07/education/edlife/college-student-homelessness.html>.

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39 **Whereas** DePaul University and Tacoma Community College have programs for students who
40 have unstable housing,^{4,5} and
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42 **Whereas** students facing housing insecurities are at a greater risk of mental health disorders,
43 such as anxiety and depression,⁶ and
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45 **Whereas** lack of rental experience, guarantor, or financial means to put down a security deposit
46 leaves college students at a disproportionate risk for housing instability,⁷ and
47
48 **Whereas** the Ohio State Emergency Grant, given by Student Advocacy Center, provides up to
49 \$1,000 to students at risk of dropping out due to unexpected financial emergencies and is
50 designated to help students secure a better financial future,⁸ and
51
52 **Whereas** one of the Alumni Association’s goals is to “Empower alumni to make a difference in
53 their communities, careers, and at the university,”⁹ and
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55 **Whereas** one part of the Alumni Association’s strategic plan is to “Cultivate a culture of
56 philanthropy that connects the passions of alumni and friends with Ohio State’s efforts to educate
57 students, solve problems, and transform the world,”⁹
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59 **Therefore, Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports expanding
60 the Ohio State Emergency Grant, and
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62 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government calls on the Alumni
63 Association to solicit funds to establish resources and funding for students facing housing
64 insecurities, and
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66 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports utilizing
67 vacant university housing in addressing housing insecurities, and
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69 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports forming
70 additional university programs to address student housing insecurities and other non-academic
71 financial emergencies.

⁴ <https://us.depaulcharity.org/depaul-home/our-work/program..s/dax-host-home-program-chicago>

⁵ <https://www.tacomahousing.net/content/tacoma-community-college-housing-assistance-program>

⁶ <http://www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org/docs/CCCSMHP-Students-Basic-Needs-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

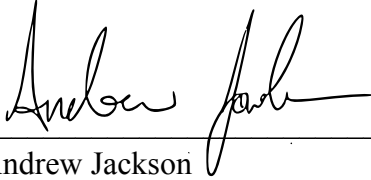
⁷ <http://www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org/docs/CCCSMHP-Students-Basic-Needs-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

⁸ <http://advocacy.osu.edu/emergency-grant>

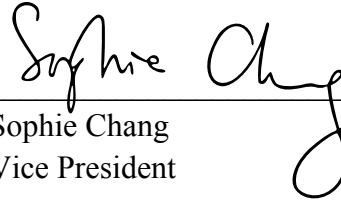
⁹ <https://www.osu.edu/alumni/about-us/visionmissionvalues.html>

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Floor Vote: Passed with unanimous consent



Andrew Jackson
President



Sophie Chang
Vice President

Date Adopted: March 21, 2018

Date Terminated: _____