

Resolution: 17-18 RS I

Author: Student Government Association Senate Pro Tempore Bessemer

To read as follows:

WHEREAS, the University of West Florida in congruence with the Student Government Association strives to support students in every aspect possible during their tenure as a student, with a specialized focus in mental wellness; and

WHEREAS, according to a study by Emory University, over 1000 suicides are committed on colleges campuses every year; and

WHEREAS, according to the Spring 2016 National College Health Assessment, 17% of college students were diagnosed with anxiety, 13.9% of students were diagnosed with depression, and 86% of students reported feeling overwhelmed by the expectations of colleges; and

WHEREAS, for every student that has been diagnosed with depression, there are countless more afraid of the social repercussions that they feel will accompany seeking mental health support; and

WHEREAS, the University of West Florida was built to be a haven of knowledge, opportunity, and success for all those who wish to seek it; and

WHEREAS, all 12 of the FSA universities stand in solidarity in their desire to reduce the previously stated numbers; and

WHEREAS, the representatives of the University of West Florida want to spread a message of hope across campus

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the University of West Florida student body urges the University of West Florida to devote more time, effort, and resources into ensuring that the university have the recommended amount of therapists and police officers hired to work on campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Student Body Presidents Office, University President's Office, the Board of Trustees, and the Pensacola City Council to proclaim that January 12th be recognized as a Mental Health Awareness Day, and to stand for all 12 universities standing together to raise awareness of mental health.

Mr. Kishane Patel Student Body President Bayla Bessemer Senate Pro Tempore