

STUDENT SENATE AUTHORIZATION 2022-XXXX

TITLE: Authorization Ordering the Student Body President to Facilitate Access to Pregnancy-Related Healthcare Services to Students

AUTHORS: Senator Oscar Santiago

SPONSORS: Senator Jonathan C. Stephens, Minority Party Leader Faith Corbett, Deputy Minority Party Leader Mohammed Faisal

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article III, Section 8(i)(4), authorizations such as this one may advise, order, or prescribe methods for an officer to fulfill their constitutional duties; and,

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 4(g) establishes that the Student Body President shall appoint aides or other officials not provided for by Student Body law, if deemed necessary; and,

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 6(m) establishes that the Senate shall have the power to enact all laws necessary and proper for the general well being of the Student Body; and,

WHEREAS, *In re: "PETITION REGARDING WHETHER THE UF SUPREME COURT CAN INTERPRET SENATE RULES AND PROCEDURES"*, 3 S.C. 19, 19-20 (January 11, 2018) determined that legislation results in a law when its enactment governs an activity; and,

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 8(i)(4) qualifies authorizations as a type of legislation that can govern an activity by ordering the fulfillment of a duty; and,

WHEREAS, around one third of college women do not use any form of birth control [1]; and,

WHEREAS, sixty-two per cent of college students do not use condoms each time they have sex each year [2]; and,

WHEREAS, ninety-two per cent of couples having frequent unprotected sex will conceive each year [3]; and,

WHEREAS, an abortion can cost up to \$750 [4]; and,

WHEREAS, fifty-eight per cent of Americans aged 18-25 cannot afford an emergency \$1,000 expense [5]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate deems it necessary that the Student Body President appoints an officer to oversee the reimbursement for half of the out-of-pocket expenses incurred by students purchasing contraceptives, emergency contraceptives, in-state or out-of-state abortion procedures and their related travel expenses, and post-abortion counseling.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advises that \$1.5 million be committed to the appointed officer's reimbursement budget, to be disbursed in amounts not exceeding \$125,000 per month.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate prescribes that any outstanding funds at the end of each month shall first be used to reimburse students for as much of the other half of the aforementioned expenses as possible, and then reimburse students' Baby Gator expenses.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate orders the Student Body President to appoint an officer to fulfill, as described, the task delegated to them by this authorization.

Proviso: A copy of this authorization shall be sent to Student Body President Lauren Lemasters, Planned Parenthood Generation Action President Jianna Daddario, Gainesville Chapter of National Women's Liberation Chair Emily Calvin, and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.

[1] <https://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/pubs/pdf/rr11-737.pdf>

[2] <https://collegestats.org/explore/collegiate-sexual-exposure/>

[3] <https://www.nhs.uk/pregnancy/trying-for-a-baby/how-long-it-takes-to-get-pregnant/>

[4] <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/ask-experts/how-much-does-an-abortion-cost>

[5] <https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/poverty/590453-survey-finds-over-half-of-americans-cant-afford-a-1000/>