



MEMORANDUM
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: The University of Florida Community
The University of Florida Student Senate
The Alligator

FROM: Ian Green, Student Body President

SUBJECT: LGBTQ+ Pride Month 2018

DATE: Monday, June 18, 2018

As in the state and federal governments, the head of the University of Florida Student Government executive branch wields the power of executive order. Though it has been years since the Student Body President has utilized an executive order, I hope to use it as a tool to support members of the student body. That is why my first executive order is a proclamation recognizing LGBTQ+ Pride Month in June of 2018, and I am so excited to see that the Student Senate is considering a resolution of similar sentiment.

The University of Florida student population is made up of individuals from varying backgrounds with different and intersectional identities. It is of the utmost importance to create an inclusive environment that fosters diversity – diversity in our student body and diversity of thought. As we strive to be a top 5 public institution, it is necessary to recognize that a diverse student body makes us stronger. The LGBTQ+ community here at the University of Florida is made up of students who I celebrate for their many contributions to our university.

As a student body we must lift up all members of our community. Each person's background makes them unique, and diverse opinions that challenge the way we think push us forward. For every positive stride made for the LGBTQ+ community, it is important to understand that the fight is not over. Whether it is a tragedy such as the shooting at Pulse two years ago that impacted so many – including members of the Gator Nation – or policy changes in America or any other nation, it is clear that we must be ever vigilant in our mission to establish liberty and equality for all.

That is why I stand firmly in my support of the queer and trans community, and I urge our campus to celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride Month 2018.