

STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2018-109

TITLE: Student Body Resolution Recognizing the Need for Reform in Regards to the Distribution and Accessibility of Firearms

AUTHOR: Senator Rachel Belinski

SPONSOR(S): Senator Olin Calvin, Senator Dakota Stanford, Senator Zarella Berrocal, Senator Sam Jenkins, Senator Mackintosh Joachim, Zach Xu,

WHEREAS, Last week the United States witnessed its 17th incident of a firearm going off on school property in 2018 alone⁵; and,

WHEREAS, The suspected shooter in the incident that occurred on February 14th, 2018, at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School was a legal gun owner of a semi-automatic rifle¹; and,

WHEREAS, the number of fatalities reached 17, making this the third deadliest school shooting in America²; and,

WHEREAS, the suspect in question was banned from bringing a backpack to school, had troubling images on his social media accounts and was expelled from school²; and,

WHEREAS, 70% of mass shootings since 1982 have involved semi-automatic weapons³; and,

WHEREAS, One looking to purchase a handgun must wait a three day period before receiving it, while there is no waiting period for the purchase of semi-automatic weapons⁴; and

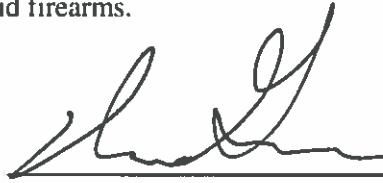
WHEREAS, the University of Florida is home to many students affected by the aftermath of gun violence, whether it be those affected by most recent events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the Pulse tragedy, the Las Vegas shooting, etc.; then,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the University of Florida Student Senate stands behind those who have been affected by mass shootings and recognizes the need for an effective solution to prevent them from occurring;

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages students that feel affected by this issue to seek help with resources like UMatter We Care and the Counseling and Wellness Center for support;

THEREFORE LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED THAT, the University of Florida Student Senate stands behind activists seeking to keep firearms out of the hands of those who intend to use them for senseless violence; and,

THEREFORE LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED THAT, The University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need to reform the purchase and distribution process of firearms, as well as the accessibility to those who are unfit to possess said firearms.

 2-28-18
Ian Green Date
Senate President

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to UF President Kent Fuchs, Florida Governor Rick Scott, Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Bill Nelson, and Senator Orrin Hatch

1. <http://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/nikolas-cruz-legally-purchased-ar-15-despite-long-history-of-mental-illness-warnings-10089980>
2. <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/broward/article200126034.html>
3. <https://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2016/06/17/482483537/semi-automatic-weapons-without-a-background-check-can-be-just-a-click-away>
4. http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0700-0799/0790/0790.html
5. <https://everytownresearch.org/school-shootings/>