

Student Senate

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**STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2018-139**

**TITLE: Resolution Supporting the Efforts Made by the University of Florida to Increase Disability Housing**

**AUTHOR: Senator Sarah Abraham**

**SPONSORS: Senator Cooper Brown, Senator Jessica Jesurajan, Senator Dilan Patel, Senator Neal Patel, Senator Branden Pearson, Senator Krishnah Sivakumaran**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida is in support of all students and consistent with the UF Non-Discrimination Policy<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Housing and Residence Education offers Open Housing as an assignment option for a limited number of students<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, a number of housing units are designed to be accessible and accommodate students with disabilities<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida is one of few schools in the country to offer secure, inclusive housing for students living with disabilities<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, a number of dorms on the first floor are handicap accessible and each room is specially designed to fit the student's individual need<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida is one of only two schools in the United States to provide tools for students with disabilities such as ceiling lifts for in-room mobility and bang bars, which are vertical, metal bars that just need a gentle tap to open doors<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, there are different levels of residential accommodations, from rooms without carpet for students suffering from allergies and asthma to single rooms for those with anxiety and depression<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cypress Hall is the first residence hall of its kind in the Southeast, built in 2015, that includes lift systems to transport students throughout their residence hall rooms, flexible restroom configurations, adequate floor space to accommodate students who utilize mobility equipment and/or who require personal care assistance and many other enhancements<sup>3</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida is expanding the number of handicap-accessible rooms from 11 to 19 by Summer 2019<sup>2</sup>; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need and importance for more inclusive housing.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate commends the University of Florida for leading the country in disability housing and to continue their efforts in doing so.

[1] <https://housing.ufl.edu/living-options/terms-conditions/accommodation-requests/>

[2] [https://www.alligator.org/news/uf-expands-leads-country-in-disability-housing/article\\_6033ed48-8977-11e8-84d9-eb60429720cd.html](https://www.alligator.org/news/uf-expands-leads-country-in-disability-housing/article_6033ed48-8977-11e8-84d9-eb60429720cd.html)

[3] <http://news.ufl.edu/articles/2018/04/uf-plans-to-increase-disability-resource-center-staff-and-resources-in-cypress-hall.php>

*Danielle Grosse* 8/9/2018

Danielle Grosse  
Senate President

Date

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Assistant Dean and Director of the Disability Resource Center Gerry Altamirano, Associate Director and Learning Specialist for the Disability Resource Center Jenna Gonzalez & President W. Kent Fuchs.*