THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION LXXXII
September 29, 2009

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF-09
October 4, 2009

CONGRESSIONAL BILL No. 820912
SENATE BILL NO. GF09-13

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution directing the UOSA
Election Chair to refer to the members of UOSA for
their approval or rejection a proposed polling
question regarding the University of Oklahoma’s non-
discrimination clause; stating proposed question;
establishing polling locations; providing effective date;
and directing distribution.

Whereas: UOSA is committed to representing the needs and concerns of all students at the University
of Oklahoma in the formulation of university policy and the fulfillment of the university’s
mission; and,

Whereas: The issue of non-discrimination with regard to sexual orientation and gender identity is
becoming an increasingly important issue within our society and within the campus
community; and,

Whereas: There is a compelling need for the inclusion of language regarding sexual orientation and
gender identity in the non-discrimination clause at the University of Oklahoma because: (1)
there is a substantial number of individuals on campus so situated as to be discriminated
against on these grounds, and (2) there is a long-standing pattern of discrimination in both,
colleges and universities and in the environing society; and,

Whereas: Many prominent colleges and universities throughout the United States have included sexual
orientation and gender identity in their non-discrimination statements – including Yale
University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, American University, Emory
University, University of Chicago, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Brown
University, and Brandeis; and,

Whereas: Many other colleges and universities who are considered peer institutions, in terms of
mission and region, have also included sexual orientation and gender identity in their non-
discrimination statements – including Arizona State University, Colorado State University,
the University of California System, University of New Mexico, Ohio State University, and Pennsylvania State University; and,

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma has a duty to provide a safe learning environment and to protect all students from discrimination; and,

Whereas: The inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in non-discrimination statements will provide clear direction to members of the administration, faculty, and staff; and,

Whereas: The call for inclusion is an effort to secure equal rights for all persons, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, not a movement to secure special rights for individuals of a particular sexual orientation.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS WITH THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

Section 1: The UOSA wishes to conduct a poll, therefore the Election Chair is hereby directed to refer the following question to members of UOSA to vote upon:

Should the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents’ Equal Opportunity Statement be amended to include “sexual orientation and gender identity”?

Section 2: The said poll shall be voted on at all polling places used for the Fall General Election which will occur on November 10th and 11th, 2009, unless specified different by an Act of the Legislature.

Section 3: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the UOSA Constitution.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to:
Mr. David L. Boren, President of the University of Oklahoma
Mr. Clarke Stroud, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students of the University of Oklahoma
The University of Oklahoma chapter of GLBTF
The Norman Transcript
The Oklahoma Daily

Author(s): Rep. Isaac Freeman, Social Sciences District
Rep. Jason Robison, Social Sciences District

Co-Author(s): Sen. Marilyn Krell, Vice-Chair of Graduate Student Senate

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Gress, seconded by Representative Hampton

Action taken by Congress: Passed by Consent, no objection

Verified by Chair: __________________________ Date: ______________

Submitted on a Motion by: for consent by Sen. Esther White, seconded by Sen. Erin Cooper

Action taken by Senate: Passed by consent, no objections