CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 890405
SENATE BILL NO. GS13-05

AS INTRODUCED

A concurring resolution encouraging the Oklahoma Legislature to adopt a Good Samaritan Law to prevent alcohol-related deaths among minors; and directing distribution.

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma student alcohol policy states: “because of the critical student health and safety issues, any conflicting policy or process will be waived.” “Further, the University strongly supports and encourages students seeking medical and/or mental health care in the event of alcohol-related illness or other concerning behavior related to alcohol use. To ensure students prioritize their own safety and health, the University shall not utilize information that a student has sought or accessed medical / mental health treatment or the SafeRide program as a basis upon which to initiate disciplinary action or as evidence in any disciplinary proceeding”;

Whereas: Oklahoma state law currently allows for the prosecution of any minors seeking attention for alcohol poisoning;

Whereas: Brett Finbloom, an incoming University of Oklahoma freshman, lost his life in Indiana on August 5th 2012 due to alcohol poisoning, which could have been prevented by an immediate call to 911;

Whereas: Minors are afraid to seek medical help in situations where alcohol is involved due to fear of legal repercussions;

Whereas: Alcohol-related deaths are preventable if medical attention is sought;

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Whereas: Pennsylvania, Texas, Indiana, Washington, Utah, Michigan, North Dakota, New York, New Jersey, California, and Colorado provide immunity from prosecution to minors in alcohol-related situations if they call 911 and are willing to work with law enforcement;

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

Section 1: That all members of the Oklahoma House of Representative and Oklahoma State Senate, in addition to the Governor’s Office, author and approve a “Good Samaritan” law, providing immunity from prosecution to cooperative minors in alcohol-related situations, so as to prevent alcohol-related deaths and injuries.

Section 2: Copies of this resolution shall be sent to:
Mary Fallin, Governor, State of Oklahoma
Norm Finbloom, Father of Brett Finbloom
David Boren, President, University of Oklahoma
Clarke Stroud, Vice President, Student Affairs, University of Oklahoma
T.W. Shannon, Speaker of the House, Oklahoma House of Representatives
Brian Bingman, President Pro Tempore, Oklahoma Senate
Emily Virgin, Oklahoma State Representative, District 44
John Sparks, Oklahoma State Senator, District 16
Jim Merritt, Indiana State Senator, District 31
Randy Head, Indiana State Senator, District 18
The Norman Transcript
The Oklahoma Daily

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Race Clark, Vice Chair, Graduate Student Senate, OU SGA

Submitted on a Motion by: Vice Chair Kiper, seconded by Representative Bryant

Action taken by the Undergraduate Student Congress: Approved by Roll Call Vote, 22-0-0

Verified by Chair: 

Date: 18 Feb. 2013

Submitted on a Motion by: Senator Loveless, second by Senator Sanchez

Action taken by Senate: Passed without objection

Verified by Chair: 

Date: 18 Feb. 2013

Approved by SGA President: 

Date: 2/18/2013

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