Congressional Resolution No. 960304
Senate Resolution No. GS16-23

AsIntroduced

A concurrent resolution strongly encouraging the Student Government Association, OU administration, and students to take additional steps to ensure the psychological and physical safety and wellbeing of students; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: Recent sightings on campus of posters promoting a white-nationalist organization have incited fear and discomfort in many students; and

Whereas: The aforementioned posters were adhered using materials that damaged surfaces throughout locations on campus, making their adherence vandalism; and

Whereas: While these posters are not in any way affiliated or associated with any OU students or student organization, they create concerns by negatively affecting students’ experiences on campus; and

Whereas: We recognize that these posters represent an organization that frequently makes racist and hateful speech; and

Whereas: We also recognize the bigotry rooted in this fascist-promoting organization, and support an open dialogue on campus with regard to the ethno-religious Jewish community, the African American community, Hispanic American community, American Indian community, among other marginalized communities which this organization has previously demeaned or put under erasure; and

Whereas: We recognize the harm hate speech perpetuates on members of our student community. Hate speech and hate groups can make students feel uncomfortable in the campus environment and negatively impact their overall experience with campus life according to studies; and

Whereas: We support students’ right to exercise free speech, but renounce all forms of hate speech including those directed at race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation/identity, or other defining trait.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as “A Concurring Resolution Condemning Vandalism and Hate Speech.”

Section 2: The Student Government Association condemns the crime of vandalism, on campus or otherwise, or any activity that damages or destroys property.

Section 3: The Student Government Association commends and supports all programs, organizations, and student activism which have worked to educate students and administration on matters of racial, ethnic, and religious hate speech, violence, trauma, etc. and continue to make our campus a more open and safe environment for all students.

Section 4: The Student Government Association emphasizes our current commitment to combat hate speech and discrimination of any kind here at OU.

Section 5: The Student Government Association commits to taking additional steps to address racial, ethnic, and religious hate-speech on campus and in our community. Both as individuals and representatives, we will continue to expand the initiatives of our association with regard to our diverse, multi-cultural student community. We will strive to better represent students of every background, and will actively work to encourage additional multicultural organizations in our liaison program moving forward.

Section 6: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
   • David L. Boren, President of The University of Oklahoma
   • Jabar Shumate, Vice President of the University of Oklahoma
   • Kathy Fahl, Director of the Gender and Equality Center
   • Nathan Damigo, Founder of Identity Evropa
   • The OU Daily
   • OU Nightly
   • The Norman Transcript

Authors: Emily Mee, University College District Representative
         Carrie Pavlowsky, Graduate Student Senate Chair
         Austin Reid, Undergraduate Student Congress Vice-Chair
         Ryan Echols, Ways and Means Committee Chair
         Daniel Pham, Physical Sciences District Representative
         Lang Eric Sundby, Holocaust Remembrance and Restitution Society President
Co-Sponsor: Angie Tran, Department of Inclusivity Director
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Taylor Kelling, Problems and Projects Committee Chair
Madison James, Sustainability Committee Chair
John Grunewald, Architecture District Representative
Reece Cox, Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences District Representative
Kara Elwick, Business District Representative
Magda Rucka, Business District Representative
Sanah Lalani, Communication District Representative
Timothy Kuketz, Earth and Energy District Representative
Syleste Davis, Engineering District Representative
Sam Noble, Engineering District Representative
Brian Owings, Humanities District Representative
Salam Alrawi, Life Sciences District Representative
Ali Klima, Social Science District Representative
Daniel Williams, Social Science District Representative
Bum-Ki Chun, University College District Representative
Tevis Hillis, University College District Representative
Sam Quick, University College District Representative
Carlos Regalado-Rubio, University College District Representative
Naomee Ryana, University College District Representative
Jonathan Simmons, University College District Representative
Anna-Gray Buckley, Academic Affairs Associate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Elliott, seconded by Representative Chun
Action taken by Congress: This bill passed by a roll call vote of 31-0-2
Verified by Chair of Congress: __________________________ Date: __________

Submitted on a motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: __________________________ Date: __________