

Resolution R-24-21 The University of Alabama 26th Senate 2021-2022

Authored By: Senator John Dodd

**Sponsored By**: Senator Rachel Cordry, Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Katie Morris, Senator John Richardson, Senator Hallie Foster, Senator Andrew Bregman, Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator Chuck Parse, Senator Alison Gaston, Senator Ruthanne Carter, Senator Jenna Berkower, Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Henry Boyle, Senator John McLendon, Secretary Grace Federico

**Endorsed By**: Jillian Fields, President; Madeline Martin, Vice President of External Affairs; Lauren Gilonske, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Sullivan Irvine, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Amanda Allen Vice President for Academic Affairs; Nathan Yamaguchi; Jacob Pickle, President of MARS; Alex Baker, Vice President of MARS; Micah Presley, Treasurer of MARS; Joe Hoffman, Director of Communications for MARS; Colby Lewis, Director of Programming for MARS; Jack Steinmetz, Vice President for Student Affairs

## A RESOLUTION FOR THE CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO EXPLORE THE MEANS TO ESTABLISH A MANDATORY BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING FOR ALL FRESHMAN STUDENTS UPON STARTING CLASSES

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled

*WHEREAS*, Nationwide, about 1 in 3 women and nearly 1 in 6 men experience sexual assault or are victims to interpersonal violence while in college; and

*WHEREAS*, 23.1% of all transgender, genderqueer, and nonconforming college students have been sexually assaulted while in college; and

*WHEREAS*, The University of Alabama's University Police reported 19 incidents of rape on our campus for the year of 2020 in their latest crime report; and

*WHEREAS*, The University of Alabama's University Police reported 24 incidents of interpersonal violence for the year of 2020 in their latest crime report; and

*WHEREAS*, Only 20% of all interpersonal violence and sexual assault crimes on college campuses are reported to the police; and

*WHEREAS*, The University of Alabama is a large community consisting of 38,320 students that include a record breaking freshman class of 7,593 young adults who may have never had the opportunity or access to receive proper bystander intervention training upon beginning their college careers; and

*WHEREAS*, The University of Alabama is home to multiple resources and organizations such as: the Women & Gender Resource Center, the UA Safe Center, Not On My Campus, and Men Against Rape & Sexual Assault, which are committed to educating the student body on the issues of sexual assault and interpersonal violence; and

*WHEREAS*, The University of Alabama is a pristine institution committed to protecting and educating it's community and those who reside in it; NOW

**THEREFORE**, *be it RESOLVED*, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association expresses its support for the idea of mandating the completion of a bystander intervention program for all freshmen upon starting classes.

*Be it further resolved,* that the University of Alabama Student Government Association creates a working group, composed of campus administrators and campus organization leaders, to further explore the means of establishing a mandatory bystander intervention program for all freshmen upon starting their classes.

*Be it further resolved,* That the University of Alabama commits to providing a safe environment for its student body, protecting them against heinous crimes such as sexual assault and interpersonal violence.

*Be it further resolved*, that copies of this resolution be to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice President of Student Life; Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Dr. Steven Hood, Senior Associate Vice President; Dr. Stacy Jones, Interim Dean of Students; Jim Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Donald Elswick, Executive Director in the Director's Office; Keely Brewer, Editor-In-Chief of The Crimson White; Jillian Fields, President of the Student Government Association; Chapman Greer, President of Faculty Senate; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor of the Student Government Association; Dr. Ruperto Perez, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Well-being.