



Resolution R-20-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Senator Nate Fulmer

Sponsors: Senator Lauryn Parker, Senator Katie Morris, Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator Collier Dobbs, Senator Rachel Cordry, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Charlie Crouse, Senator Will Goodloe, Senator Jacob Gifford, Senator Emmett Wilson, Senator Justin McCleskey, Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Sarah Beth Corona, Senator John McLendon, Senator Luke Schroeder, Senator Hallie Foster, Senator Sims Johnson, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator Grayson Shook, Senator Luke Dille, Senator Porter O’Doherty, Senator Andrew Bregman, Senator Grant Haidu, Senator Ruthanne Carter, Senator Lauren Rouse, Senator CJ Pearson, Secretary Grace Federico

Endorsements: Jillian Fields, President of the Student Government Association; Sullivan Irvine, Vice President for Financial Affairs, Jack Steinmetz, Vice President for Student Affairs; Madeline Martin, Vice President for External Affairs, Lauren Gilonske, Vice-President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Nathan Yamaguchi, SGA Chief of Staff

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TO ALLOW FOR A FULL FIVE-DAY THANKSGIVING BREAK AND A MID-SEMESTER FALL STUDY BREAK THROUGH THE REALLOCATION OF ACADEMIC DAYS IN THE SCHOOL YEAR

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

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama recently made the decision to remove any future two-day mid-semester study breaks during the fall semester, and instead reallocate those two days of break to Thanksgiving week, thus allowing for a 5-day break from classes during Thanksgiving week; and

WHEREAS, prior to this decision, the longest period between academic breaks during the school year was 7 weeks; and

WHEREAS, after this decision, starting in the Fall 2022 term, the longest period between academic breaks during the school year will be 11 weeks; and

WHEREAS, college students experience high levels of stress due to academic course load, social anxiety, and unfamiliar living circumstances, among other causes; and

WHEREAS, this stress can be so intense that it negatively affects academic performance; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to maintain a full 5-day week break from classes for Thanksgiving because, among other advantages, this allows out-of-state students more time to travel and spend time with family at home; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama must maintain a total of 201 days of classes during an entire two-semester school year; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama traditionally begins the academic semester on a Wednesday;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, the University of Alabama looks into the feasibility of beginning each academic semester on a Tuesday, thus creating two extra days of classes which can be expended to allow for both a two-day mid-semester fall study break and a full five-day Thanksgiving break.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Jim Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost of UA; Dr. Luoheng Han, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs; Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs for the University of Alabama System; Dr. Chapman Greer, President of the University of Alabama Faculty Senate; Keely Brewer, Editor-in-Chief of the Crimson White; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.