

A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, REQUESTING THE ADDITION OF A FLEXIBLE HOUSING OPTION FOR RESIDENTS OF UNIVERSITY HOUSING.

WHEREAS: Flexible housing is a housing option where a student can choose to live with any other student regardless of their gender or gender identity/expression, and

WHEREAS: Interim Vice President for Student Engagement and Business Operations Arnie Slaughter has expressed support for such a policy, stating “Many current and prospective students have asked me or members of my team about the opportunity to live with whoever they want,” and

WHEREAS: Other universities across the country have successfully implemented similar programs including: Georgia State University, Case Western Reserve University, Purdue University, the University of Michigan, Ohio State University, and the University of Cincinnati, and

WHEREAS: Adding a flexible housing option will help create a more inclusive environment at NKU. Tyler Groll, Hall Director for Norse Hall expressed this sentiment when he stated “This addition will make NKU a better place because it adds a unique option to the already long list of housing options offered at NKU. It will also help future students live in a more comfortable and inclusive environment in order to enhance their experience at Northern Kentucky University,” and

WHEREAS: A student at Case Western Reserve University stated the following in regards to their flexible housing program: “It’s important to create a community in which everyone feels included and accepted for who they are...[this policy] allows me to feel safe and at ease in my dorm room,” and

WHEREAS: Implementation of flexible housing does not carry a fiscal impact. Mr. Groll has stated that “No additional costs will be added to residents who choose to live in flexible housing”. In addition, Janice Gerda, Director of Residence Life at Case Western Reserve University, has stated that her institution saw little to no reduction in revenue after implementing its flexible housing policy, and

WHEREAS: Some have criticized flexible housing policies, stating that they will lead to an increase in incidents of sexual harassment. This is not the case, however. According to Ms. Gerda, there have been no reports of sexual harassment related to flexible housing since its implementation at Case Western Reserve University, and

WHEREAS: Adding a flexible housing option will increase options for residents of University Housing and foster a more inclusive environment, thus enhancing the student experience.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF APRIL 2016, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, REQUESTING THE ADDITION OF A FLEXIBLE HOUSING OPTION FOR RESIDENTS OF UNIVERSITY HOUSING.

Signed: _____

Katherine M. Hahnel, President

Attest: _____

Charles Britt, Senator

