A resolution affirming the Student Senate’s support for the repeal of BOG Code Statute 2.87.02.255 and for the promotion of diversity and inclusion at Wayne State University

Presented on the 4th of April 2019

Sponsors: Stuart Baum
Co-Sponsors: Lauren Ayoub

WHEREAS, The Student Senate voted to put forth an amendment to BOG Code Statute 2.87.02.255 at the Student Senate’s February 7th, 2019 General Body Meeting regarding the use of gender-exclusive restrooms on campus;¹ AND

WHEREAS, The current statute deems it unlawful for any person to use a public restroom on campus unless that person is of the ‘sex’ designated for admittance therein;² AND

WHEREAS, The use of the word ‘sex’ in the current statute confuses the difference between biological sex and gender identity, and thus makes it an offence for transgender or gender non-conforming students to utilize the restrooms they feel comfortable in;³ AND

WHEREAS, With a mission to promote diversity and inclusion, the University has an obligation to rectify any policies that counter such values, and to respect the equal dignity of all its students;⁴ AND

WHEREAS, The Student Senate’s proposed amendment called for the replacement of the word ‘sex’ with ‘gender identity’ in recognition of these flaws with the current phrasing;⁵ AND

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate Policy Committee, upon their review of our proposal, has voted in favor of the wholesale repeal, rather than amendment, of Statute 2.87.02.255;⁶ AND

¹ Student Senate proposal entitled “Repeal of Section 2.87.02.255 of the Wayne State University / City Ordinances Statute.”
² BOG Code Statute 2.87.02.255.
³ Student Senate proposal entitled “Repeal of Section 2.87.02.255 of the Wayne State University / City Ordinances Statute.”
⁴ Ibid.
⁵ Ibid.
⁶ Academic Senate Policy Committee Meeting held on April 1st, 2019.
WHEREAS, The Student Senate supports the Academic Senate Policy Committee’s vote to repeal the existing statute as another way to address the flaws in the current statute; AND

WHEREAS, Upon further review, it was determined that the Board of Governors had already voted to repeal Statute 2.87.02.255 in its entirety at its June 24th, 2016 meeting; AND

WHEREAS, The Student Senate supports the previous vote of the Board of Governors to repeal Statute 2.87.02.255 as a means of addressing the flaws with the statute; AND

WHEREAS, The BOG Code published online was never updated to reflect this repeal; AND

WHEREAS, It is imperative for the BOG Code published online to be updated to reflect recent changes to the BOG Code in order to ensure that it is accurately and uniformly interpreted and enforced.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wayne State University Student Senate calls for the BOG Code published online to be updated to reflect the repeal of BOG Code Statute 2.87.02.255; AND

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wayne State University Student Senate calls on the University to undertake a review of all its published policies to determine whether they are up-to-date, and to correct any such inconsistencies.

AND FINALLY BE IT ORDERED, that the Wayne State University Student Senate will circulate this resolution to all relevant outlets, including the University President, the University Provost, the members of the Board of Governors, and the President of the Wayne State University Academic Senate.

X________________________  X________________________
Stuart Baum              Dalia Ibrahim
President                Vice President

7 Official Proceedings and Report of Actions from the June 24th, 2016 Board of Governors Meeting.