

Introduced By: Senator Benjamin Rembaum
Sponsored By: Student Body President
Kyler Gray
Chair Correa-Ferro,
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Senator Benjamin Milgram
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First Reading: January 23, 2020
Committee Action: 4-0-3 passed favorably
Second Reading: January 30, 2020
Third Reading:
Final Vote:

**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Second Student Body Senate
Resolution 52-05**

[Resolution opposing the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement at the University of Central Florida]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.03(G) (1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee is to pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student and university affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF);

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 5.01 (C) (2) states that a Resolution pertains to a measure expressing the sentiment of the Student Senate;

WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida should foster an environment of peace and promotion of global welfare;

WHEREAS, BDS stands for “Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions”;

WHEREAS, The BDS Movement is promoting various forms of boycott against Israel;

WHEREAS, The word boycott is defined as “not buying or using the goods or services of a certain company or country as a protest”;

WHEREAS, according to Hillel.org, within UCF’s student population, 10% of undergraduate students and 4% of graduate students identify as Jewish;

WHEREAS, The BDS Movement does not recognize, and many of its supporters explicitly deny, the right of the Jewish people to national self-determination;

WHEREAS, Some examples of technology that were invented by Israelis consist of drip irrigation, the iron dome missile defense system, the original cell-phone technology, a drug for Parkinson’s disease, the USB Flash Drive, waze, etc;

WHEREAS, Universities such as University of South Florida, George Washington University, New York University, and University of Massachusetts Amherst have self-identified as pro-BDS and students that identify as part of the pro-Israel movement can’t speak out without fear of retribution;

WHEREAS, Universities that support BDS have a higher likelihood of having protests across campus and instilling fear within the student body as a whole;

WHEREAS, It is imperative for students to stand unequivocally against all forms of racism and bigotry globally on campus, including but not limited to Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism, homophobia, and sexism;

WHEREAS, support for this Resolution can lead to a safer and more inclusive environment for UCF’s student population;

WHEREAS, UCF can set the example by encouraging economic cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians;

WHEREAS, Showing support for strengthening the Palestinian economy can help lay the necessary foundation for peace to ensue; and

WHEREAS, Tensions between students related to foreign conflicts, including but not limited to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, should be managed in a healthy and collaborative manner rather than be exacerbated;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of the Fifty-Second Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that we do not support the “Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction” Movement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCF’s Student Government reaffirms its strong opposition to Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and all other forms of racism and discrimination;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCF’s Student Government will endeavor to strengthen existing interfaith initiatives to promote good relations between groups on campus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the office of all the deans of all colleges within UCF, UCF’s Board of Trustees, and all members of Student Government.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Date

Date