



SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-109-P6

Final Vote: 35-0

Authors(x): Subramanian, Heiden, et. al

Senate Secretary: Hope Heiden

Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmeje

Senate Speaker: Krish Madhura

A PROCLAMATION ON MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES AT SMU

1	WHEREAS	The 109 th SMU Student Senate places the highest priority on the safety and well-being of every member of our campus community, including faculty, students, and staff.
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5	ACKNOWLEDGING	SMU Student Senate recognizes that students may face mental health challenges during their academic journey at SMU and strives to create a supportive environment to assist students in managing these difficulties to facilitate the well-being of students.
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10	ACKNOWLEDGING	That mental health struggles are still commonly stigmatized and can lead to isolation for students, which can create significant barriers in seeking help and can exacerbate the difficulties individuals may already be facing.
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15	ACKNOWLEDGING	SMU is seeking to get more data about student health and lives through the National College Health Assessment (NCHA), which is a research survey designed to gather information about student health behaviors. T
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20	URGES	The entire SMU community to complete the NCHA as swiftly as possible, encouraging friends to complete the assessment to allow SMU to provide better services and support for students in higher education.
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25	RECOGNIZING	The SMU Student Senate is acutely aware of the prevalence of mental health issues among our student body, and the resulting feelings of loneliness and isolation that that can often accompany them.
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29	RECOGNIZING	The current resources available on campus may not be sufficient to meet the complex and diverse needs of our students. We are committed to advocating for increased support, resources, and services that address the unique challenges faced by individuals with mental health concerns.
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35	RECOGNIZING	Students, SMU Student Senate, and other Student Leaders have not yet recognized the current mental health epidemic affecting young adults, but have also worked diligently to increase and provide more mental health services to our campus.
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SMU Student Senate

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SMU Student Senate recognizes the critical importance of mental health resources for students on campus. We are fully committed to collaborating with the administration and SMU's Health Center to expand and enhance initiatives that promote mental wellness and make these resources more accessible to all students.

The 109th Student Senate will strive to create a campus community where students feel supported, valued, and empowered to prioritize their mental health and well-being.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nrithi Subramanian

Cox Senator

Hope Heiden

Student Body Secretary

Mel Jackson

First-Year Senator

Ian Stripe

First-Year Senator

Faith Bombito

Pre-Major Senator

Sydney Bowlin

Simmons Senator

Tulsi Ram Lohani

Parliamentarian