

Introduced By: Senator Yalamanchili
Sponsored By: Chair Temple
Contact: sgachps4@ucf.edu
First Reading: March 23, 2023
Committee Action: Passed 9-0-0
Second Reading: March 23, 2023
Final Vote: Passed 28-1-0



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Fourth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 54-42**

[Proclamation Celebrating Trans Day of Visibility on March 31 and the Trans Week of Visibility and Action from March 25 to 31]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall 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(D)(1) states that Proclamations are defined as measures recognizing, celebrating, or condemning extraordinary events, organizations, or individuals on behalf of all Student Government Agents;
WHEREAS, Transgender Day of Visibility is an annual day to celebrate the life and achievements of members of the transgender community and to raise awareness about discrimination faced by the community;
WHEREAS, Transgender Day of Visibility was founded by the trans activist Rachel Crandall in 2009;
WHEREAS, Being transgender is defined as an umbrella term used to refer to people whose gender identity is different from their sex assigned at birth;
WHEREAS, A survey published by the Pew Research Center estimates that 1.6% of American adults and 5% of American young adults below the age of 30 identify as transgender as of May 2022;
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida is home to a sizeable population of transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming students;
WHEREAS, It is important to understand that transgender people come from all walks of life, representing many racial, ethnic, and faith backgrounds;
WHEREAS, According to the Pew Research Center, 42% of Americans know someone who is transgender as of 2021;
WHEREAS, Transgender citizens are facing attacks by state governments in Florida and in other states with regards to restrictions and bans on access to gender-affirming care, public bathrooms, athletics, drag shows, as well as curriculum censorship;
WHEREAS, Visibility is not enough to protect the transgender community, and the time for action and mass mobilization in defense of trans lives is now;
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida is ranked the top college in Florida in the top 25 colleges nationwide for LGBTQ+ students according to the Campus Pride Index and is rated 4.5 out of 5 stars on such index;
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida supports the transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming community through gender neutral restrooms, preferred name policies, and a number of LGBTQ+ focused university agencies and student organizations;
WHEREAS, It is important to raise awareness about discrimination faced by the trans community and escalate resistance to criminalize the existence of the trans community by encouraging students and other citizens to lobby and demand lawmakers vote no on anti-trans legislation, educate families, friends, and other relevant circles on the struggle faced by the trans community, and elevate initiatives and organizations that center trans people and their well-being through the call to action that is Trans Week of Visibility and Action from the 25th of March to the 31st of March;
WHEREAS, Civil rights attorney Chase Strangio and activist Raquel Willis launched the Trans Week of Visibility and Action in 2021 to digitally mobilize people to resist legislative attacks on the trans community and to enhance the lead up to the Trans Day of Visibility by adding a component of direct action and political education;
WHEREAS, The Trans Week of Visibility and Action has a significance for each day: March 26th to condemn drag bans, March 27th to condemn healthcare bans, March 28th to condemn curriculum censorship and forced outing, March 29th to condemn bathroom bans, and March 30th to condemn sports bans; and
WHEREAS, It is important to celebrate the transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming community for their achievements and contributions to society by celebrating Trans Day of Visibility on the 31st of March.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fifty-Fourth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida celebrates Trans Day of Visibility on the 31st of March and Trans Week of Visibility and Action from the period of the 25th of March to the 31st of March in order to commemorate the lives and achievements of the transgender community as well as raise awareness about discrimination faced by the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That UCF place a special emphasis on protecting, supporting, and helping transgender students thrive and live in a safe and welcoming campus environment during this troubling time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to UCF President Alexander Cartwright, Student Body President Daniella Lopez, Ginsburg Center - Office of Civil Discourse & Engagement (CDE) Director Justin Andrade, Diversity

and Inclusion Coordinator Jade Collins, LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator Michael Nunes, Multicultural Student Center (MSC) Director Marcus Hernandez, the Pride Student Association, Out and Active, and oSTEM.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Dylan Hall
Senate President

Date

Daniella Lopez
Student Body President

Date