



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION 21-01

AUTHORED BY: Senator Justin Bacon and Senator Alejandro Briceno

SPONSORED BY: Director Makaya Clinton, Senator Jenna Tillman, President Pro Tempore Jalen Smith, Director Laura Northup, Senator Ashley Thinnifel, Senator Cassie Katen, Senator Lauren Vosburgh

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Valdosta State University (VSU) Student Government Association (SGA) to determine and state the official position of the VSU student body on relevant issues, and to ensure a safe and inclusive campus for the entirety of the VSU student body;

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2021 the United States Capitol was stormed by a group of rioters in what is being called an attempt to overturn the 2020 United States Presidential Election, which resulted in the lockdown and evacuation of the Capitol building, and the disruption of a joint session of congress assembled to count the electoral votes, these events resulted in multiple injured and five dead;

WHEREAS, the VSU SGA recognizes and promotes difference of opinions on campus, while instilling a sense of civility among fellow Blazers, and appealing to each student to display integrity in one's actions on our campus;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the VSU SGA to uphold the Blazer Creed, and to ensure that every one of the students on this campus feel a sense of safety and citizenship, without fear of discrimination for one's race, religion, ideology or opinion;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the VSU SGA, which represents a student body of over 12,500, publicly denounces the events of the storming of the Capitol on January 6, 2021 as an unlawful, violent and unpatriotic insurgency that only served to inflict fear nationwide, and has no place in our country, nor does it showcase how American democracy functions;

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the VSU SGA has made the following recommendations to the VSU Administration:

- an increase in police presence on campus between the first two weeks of classes, culminating on January 24, 2021 to guarantee the safety of our students from any political and/or discriminatory attacks that might be incentivized due to the inauguration of President-Elect Joe Biden
- increased lighting on campus between the first two weeks of classes, culminating on January 24, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the VSU SGA commits to working together with the proper faculty, staff, and administration at VSU to ensure our campus feels safe, and for students to lawfully express themselves without any threat of violence against them.

For: 29 Against: 0 Abstain: 4
 Primary Mover: President Pro Tempore Jalen Smith Secondary Mover: Senator Carter
 APPROVED **DENIED** **VETOED** Date: 1/13/2021
Melissa Woyte _____, Student Government President