

Fall 2006

## F06RS SGR No. 2 (Freshman Res. Requirement)

Hodge

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## STUDENT SENATE

F06RS

SGR No. 2

BY: SENATOR HODGE

## A RESOLUTION

TO RE-AFFIRM STUDENT OPPOSITION TO AND URGE THE ADMINISTRATION TO REJECT  
ANY FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT.

**PARAGRAPH 1:** WHEREAS, THERE IS CURRENTLY A PROPOSAL BEING CONSIDERED BY THE UNIVERSITY THAT WOULD REQUIRE ALL FRESHMAN UNDER THE AGE OF 21 WHO DO NOT RESIDE WITH THEIR PARENTS TO LIVE ON CAMPUS THEIR FIRST YEAR, AND

**PARAGRAPH 2:** WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE PROPOSED A SIMILAR PLAN IN 2001, WHICH WAS OPPOSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE LSU AND A&M STUDENT SENATE AND 68% OF THE STUDENT BODY DURING A CAMPUS-WIDE REFERENDUM, AND

**PARAGRAPH 3:** WHEREAS, THE CHEAPEST RENT FOR A TWO BEDROOM DORMITORY ROOM FOR THE 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR IS \$1,835, AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 100% FROM 1998, AND

**PARAGRAPH 4:** WHEREAS, THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT THAT ALL ON-CAMPUS FRESHMAN PURCHASE A MEAL PLAN THROUGH CHARTWELL'S DINING SERVICES, THAT CURRENTLY OFFERS THE CHEAPEST MEAL PLAN AT A RATE OF \$1,129 WHICH COVERS AN AVERAGE OF 5 MEALS PER WEEK, AND

**PARAGRAPH 5:** WHEREAS, FOR THE 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR, T.O.P.S. WILL ONLY COVER \$1,664 OF TUITION AND FEES FOR THE LSU AND A&M CAMPUS, LEAVING \$590.50 IN UNFUNDED FEES FOR FRESHMAN, AND

**PARAGRAPH 6:** WHEREAS, THE COST FOR A FRESHMAN TO SET FOOT ON THE CAMPUS WOULD BE EQUAL TO \$3,554.50, WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF TEXTBOOKS, OTHER FOOD ONE WOULD HAVE TO BUY THAT IS NOT COVERED BY THE MEAL PLAN AND ENTERTAINMENT THE STUDENT MAY UNDERTAKE, AND

**PARAGRAPH 7:** WHEREAS, A FRESHMAN IS ONLY ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,250 PER SEMESTER THROUGH THE STAFFORD LOAN PROGRAM, LEAVING THEM SHORT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO PAY FOR ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED EXPENSES, AND

**PARAGRAPH 8:** WHEREAS, NOT ONLY ARE THERE MONETARY REASONS TO REJECT THE FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT, BUT ALSO POLICY REASONS RELATED TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE, AND

**PARAGRAPH 9:** WHEREAS, ANY STUDENT WHO LIVES ON CAMPUS MUST SIGN A CONTRACT AGREEING TO CERTAIN RULES AND REGULATIONS

56 THAT ARE INTRUSIVE AND INFRINGE ON CONSTITUTIONAL  
57 LIBERTIES INCLUDING THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION, SPEECH, AND  
58 SEARCH AND SEIZURE, AND

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60 **PARAGRAPH 10:** WHEREAS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF FREEDOM OF  
61 RELIGION WOULD BE INFRINGED UPON IF A STUDENT AS PART OF  
62 THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS MUST BURN CANDLES AND INCENSE IN  
63 THEIR DORM ROOM AS THESE ITEMS ARE BANNED FROM BEING IN  
64 THE ROOM OR IF THEY HAVE DIETARY NEEDS SUCH AS HALAL ,  
65 KOSHER OR VEGAN, AS CHARTWELL'S CANNOT PROVIDE THESE  
66 MEAL TYPES IN SUFFICIENT FORM, AND

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68 **PARAGRAPH 11:** WHEREAS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO SPEECH IS  
69 INFRINGED UPON AS THE DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE  
70 PROHIBITS ANY DECORATION IN A DORMITORY ROOM THAT  
71 ADVERTISES ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN ANY WAY, AND

72  
73 **PARAGRAPH 12:** WHEREAS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AGAINST AN UNLAWFUL  
74 SEARCH AND SEIZURE IS ALSO INFRINGED AS THE REGULATIONS  
75 PROVIDE THAT ANY STAFF MEMBER CAN ENTER A STUDENT'S  
76 ROOM UNANNOUNCED 24 HOURS A DAY TO CONDUCT A SAFETY  
77 INSPECTION, AND

78  
79 **PARAGRAPH 13:** WHEREAS, THE VISITATION POLICY OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE IS  
80 DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST OPPOSITE-SEX COUPLES AS THE  
81 CURRENT POLICY ONLY ALLOWS PERSONS OF THE SAME-SEX TO  
82 REMAIN FOR 24 HOURS IN A STUDENTS ROOM AND THE POLICY  
83 VIOLATES THE RIGHT OF A STUDENT TO ASSEMBLE FREELY WITH  
84 WHO THEY CHOOSE, AND

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86 **PARAGRAPH 14:** WHEREAS, THE AFOREMENTIONED CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES  
87 ARE IMPORTANT TO MANY STUDENTS AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE  
88 FORCED TO SIGN THEIR RIGHTS AWAY AS A CONTINGENCY FOR  
89 ENROLLING AT LSU THROUGH LIVING IN A DORMITORY, AND

90  
91 **PARAGRAPH 15:** WHEREAS, THE POLICY EXEMPTS ONLY PERSONS OVER 21,  
92 PERSONS WITH FINANCIAL NEED, PERSONS WHO LIVE WITH THEIR  
93 FAMILY, PERSONS WITH HEALTH ISSUES, AND

94  
95 **PARAGRAPH 16:** WHEREAS, THE RECENT DEATHS RELATED TO MENINGITIS MAY  
96 GIVE STUDENTS PAUSE ABOUT LIVING IN A COMMUNAL SETTING  
97 AND STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE THE DECISION FOR  
98 THEMSELVES WHETHER THEY WANT TO LIVE IN A COMMUNAL  
99 ENVIRONMENT, AND

100  
101 **PARAGRAPH 17:** WHEREAS, FOR OTHER MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL REASONS,  
102 STUDENTS MAY CHOOSE NOT TO LIVE ON CAMPUS AND THEY  
103 SHOULD NOT HAVE TO JUSTIFY THEIR NEEDS TO THE  
104 DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE BY TURNING OVER THEIR  
105 MEDICAL FILES IN ORDER TO GAIN AN EXEMPTION, AND

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107 **PARAGRAPH 18:** WHEREAS, THE GOVERNING BODY OF ON CAMPUS STUDENTS, THE  
108 RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION, HAS NOT ENDORSED THE PLAN

109 AND THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS  
110 ISSUES RELATED TO THE PLAN BEFORE A PLAN IS SUBMITTED, AND

111  
112 **PARAGRAPH 19:** WHEREAS, THE MANDATING OF FRESHMAN TO LIVE ON CAMPUS  
113 MAY FORCE UPPERCLASSMAN AND GRADUATE STUDENTS TO FIND  
114 A PLACE TO LIVE OFF CAMPUS BECAUSE OF THE DECREASED  
115 AMOUNT OF ROOM AVAILABLE FOR THEM TO RESIDE ON CAMPUS,  
116 AND

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118 **PARAGRAPH 20:** WHEREAS, MORE STUDENT INPUT IS NEEDED BEFORE A  
119 FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT IS IMPLEMENTED AS IT  
120 WILL AFFECT FUTURE STUDENTS GREATLY IN TERMS OF WHO  
121 CAN AND CAN'T AFFORD TO ATTEND LSU BECAUSE OF THIS  
122 POLICY, AND

123  
124 **PARAGRAPH 21:** WHEREAS, THIS PLAN MAY INTERRUPT FAMILY PLANS AS  
125 PARENTS MAY HAVE PURCHASED OFF-CAMPUS CONDOS OR HOMES  
126 IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, PLANNING FOR A SERIES OF CHILDREN  
127 TO RESIDE IN THEM WHILE ATTENDING LSU, WHICH WOULD BE  
128 DISRUPTED BY THIS POLICY, AND

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130 **PARAGRAPH 22:** WHEREAS, A VISITING COMMITTEE HIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY  
131 MADE A REPORT BASED ON OBSERVATIONS THEY MADE ON APRIL  
132 27-29, 2004, STATING IN PART, "DURING THE SPRING 2004  
133 SEMESTER, HOWEVER, AN AD HOC FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE  
134 WAS OPERATING WITH THE SPECIFIC CHARGE OF EXAMINING THE  
135 CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE POTENTIAL REQUIREMENT  
136 AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT WHEN AND HOW IT  
137 SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED... THE AD HOC COMMITTEE  
138 CONCLUDED THAT THE PROJECTED NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE  
139 ON CAMPUS WOULD NOT ALLOW A UNIVERSAL REQUIREMENT, OR  
140 EVEN A REQUIREMENT WITH REASONABLE EXCEPTIOSN, TO BE  
141 INSTITUTED BEFORE 2010," AND

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143 **PARAGRAPH 23:** WHEREAS, THERE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL INPUT FROM AN AD  
144 HOC COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE AS THERE WAS IN  
145 2001 TO FURTHER STUDY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROPOSAL  
146 BEFORE IT IS ENACTED.

147  
148 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOUISIANA  
149 STATE UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND  
150 MECHANICAL COLLEGE SENATE THAT THE  
151 ADMINISTRATION OF LSU REJECT ANY FRESHMAN RESIDENCY  
152 REQUIREMENT FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED REASONS.

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154 **PARAGRAPH 24:** THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A MAJORITY  
155 VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE  
156 PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR  
157 IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY  
158 THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.  
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**APPROVED**

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**ASHLEY MARTIN – SPEAKER**

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**CHRISTOPHER K. ODINET – PRESIDENT**

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**DATE**

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