University of South Florida
Student Government Senate

SB [R] 60-003
Addressing Climate Change
60th Term
Fall 2019

- A Senate Resolution -

The intent of this resolution is to raise visibility surrounding the impacts of climate change on the USF community and the State of Florida to stand by the scientific consensus on climate change, and to challenge other Florida Universities to do the same.

Author(s):	Kyle Denny, Student; Hanna Page, Student; Audrey Pirzadeh, Senator.
Sponsor(s):	Kyle Denny, Student; Hanna Page, Student; Audrey Pirzadeh, Senator; Veronica Diaz, Policy Chair; Caitlin Westerfield, Senator; Rachel Callahan, Senator; Hernan Benavides, Senate President Pro Tempore; Evangeline Wang, Student; Robert O'Nan, Student; Rayna Kanas, Student; Najib Albadrasawi, Student, Zach Blair-Andrews, Relations Vice-Chair, Misha Patel, Senator
First Reading:	10/24/2019
Final Reading:	10/24/2019
Senate Vote:	43-0-0

This is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution 60-003, authored by Audrey Pirzadeh, Kyle Denny, Hanna Page and adopted by the Senate on 10/29/2019 with a vote count of 43-0-0.

University of South Florida
Student Government Senate

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Be it resolved by the Senate of the University of South Florida Student Government assembled,

Whereas, Human activities have directly caused an estimated rate of global warming of 1.0°C with warming likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052,

Whereas, CO_2 emissions from fossil fuel usage contributed 78% of the total greenhouse gas emissions from 1970 – 2010,

Whereas, Global CO_2 concentrations have reached 407.92 parts per million (ppm) as of October 6, 2019 compared to pre-industrial levels,

Whereas, CO_2 concentrations in the Earth's atmosphere have reached the highest levels in nearly 350,000 years,

Whereas, The oceans absorb approximately 25% of the CO_2 released through human activity,

Whereas, The acidity of the ocean has increased 28.8% since the beginning of the industrial era as a result of increased CO_2 absorption,

Whereas, Global ocean temperatures in 2018 were 0.8°C above the 1980 – 2010 climatological average,

Whereas, Global mean surface temperatures for 2006 – 2015 were observed to be 0.87°C above pre-industrial levels,

Whereas, The frequency and intensity of major hurricanes have significantly increased over the past 30 years,

Whereas, The pace of global sea level rise has nearly doubled from 1.7 mm/yr. throughout most of the twentieth century to 3.35 mm/yr. since 1993,

Whereas, Global sea levels may have risen as much as 6 - 8 feet above current levels by the end of the century,

Whereas, The estimated economic losses as a direct result of hurricane activity has totaled over $350 billion since 2016,

Whereas, Studies suggest that nearly 19-35% of all life on Earth could be endangered by mid-century as a direct result of anthropogenic climate change,

Whereas, The impacts of climate change are already being felt by the USF Community and the State of Florida,

Therefore, The USF SG Senate stands with the scientific community and upholds that the current era of climate change is a direct result of human activity.

Therefore, The USF SG Senate challenges other Florida Universities, as institutions founded upon the principles of truth and academia, to maintain the integrity of scientific research and its conclusion that climate change is driven by anthropogenic factors.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Dr. Steven C. Currall, the UCF Student Government , the UF Student Government , the FSU Student Government , the UNF Student Government. The FGCU Student Government, the University of Tampa Student Government, the Eckerd College Student Government, the FAU Student Government. The FIU Student Government, the New College Student Government, the FAMU Student Government, the University of Miami Student Government. Florida Institute of Technology Student Government, UWF Student Government , HCC student Government Association Forida Representative, Fentrice Driskell, congresswoman Kathy Castor Governor Ron DeSantis, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Andrew Wheeler, Secretary of the Florida department of Environmental Protection Noah Valenstein Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Rick Scott, Attorney General Ashley Moody and The USF School of Geosciences,..

Salud Martinez 11/5/19

Salud Martinez, Senate President

11/5/19

Hernan Benavides, Senate President Pro Tempore

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