UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: SGAR-58004 Date introduced: August 25, 2021 Author(s): President Darbin, Vice-President Alghafir Sponsor(s): Director of External Affairs Nguyen, Director of Outreach Bennett Draft: Vote

Resolution on COVID-19 Guidelines

Whereas, there has been a surge in the number of COVID-19 cases mostly due to the delta variant of the virus which is over two times more infectious than the original strain;¹

Whereas, the University of Houston is located within the Harris County which makes up the highest number of Covid-19 infections in the state of Texas;²

Whereas, the Center for Disease Control states that vaccination and mask wearing play a crucial role in reducing the risk of contracting the virus, including the Delta variant;

Whereas, virtual classes do not accommodate all students (i.e. students with learning disorders) however, provide a safe class environment for immunocompromised students to continue their education without risking their health;³

Whereas, University of the Houston is being constrained in its protective and preventive measures by forces outside of its control;

¹ https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html#:~:text=summary%20of%20what%20CDC%20scientists,original%20virus%20strains.%20Unvaccinate

² https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/AdditionalData.aspx

³ http://thedailycougar.com/2020/09/09/combating-the-side-effects-of-online-learning/

Therefore, be it resolved by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

The 58th Student Government Association supports the University of Houston in their endeavor to implement reasonable and appropriate protective and preventive measure based on scientific evidence to create a safe environment for the in person experience of students commuting to and residing on the campus.

Be it further resolved, the 58th Student Government Association calls on the University of Houston to provide virtual classes and services as an option for students who cannot attend in-person settings;

Be it further resolved, the 58th Student Government Association urges the student body to follow the safety guidelines provided by CDC such as social distancing, wearing masks, and getting vaccinated;

Be it further resolved, the 58th Student Government Association encourages the student body through its "Mask Up Vaxx Up" campaign to utilize resource provided by the University such as vaccination events and COVID-19 testing services;

Be it further resolved, the 58th Student Government Association supports the UH Faculty Senate in their resolution on COVID-19 guidelines for Fall 2021;⁴

APPROVED

Student Government President

Arsalan Darbin

Date of President's Approval: 10-13-2021

DAVIA BOUL XIBA

David Paul Hilton

Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate Approval: <u>10-B-2021</u>