

SGA Resolution Overview

I. Understanding Resolutions

A resolution is a formal statement that addresses a specific issue or topic. It typically includes:

- **Title:** Brief and descriptive of the issue or purpose.
 - **Whereas clauses:** Statements explaining the background, reasons, or context for the resolution.
 - **Resolved clauses:** Action statements detailing what the SGA is asking for or supporting.
 - **Supporting details:** Data, testimonials, or references to support the resolution.
 - **Endorsements:** Signatures or approvals from SGA members or student groups.
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II. Step-by-Step Guide for Drafting a Resolution

1. Title and Subject

- Start with a concise title that captures the essence of the resolution.
- The title should begin with "A Resolution to..." or "A Resolution Concerning..." followed by the action or position of the resolution.

Example:

- *A Resolution to Support Increased Access to Mental Health Resources on Campus*

2. Preamble (Whereas Clauses)

The preamble provides background information and justification for the resolution. Each clause should start with the word "Whereas" and describe a fact or reason that supports the resolution.

- **Format:**
 - Begin each statement with "Whereas," followed by a fact or rationale for the resolution.
 - Each statement should be its own separate clause.

Example:

- *Whereas, Frostburg State University students have expressed concerns regarding limited access to mental health services on campus;*
 - *Whereas, mental health services are crucial to student well-being and academic success;*
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- *Whereas, other universities in the region have expanded mental health resources and have seen positive outcomes;*

3. Operative Section (Resolved Clauses)

The operative section outlines the actions the SGA is taking or the stance they are adopting. Each clause should begin with "Resolved, that" and specify the desired outcome or policy change.

- **Format:**
 - Each clause starts with "There for Be it Resolved, that..." or "Be It Further Resolved..." followed by the specific action.
 - You may include multiple resolved clauses for different actions.

Example:

- *Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Frostburg State University Student Government Association formally supports the expansion of mental health resources on campus;*
- *Be It Further Resolved, that the SGA calls on university administration to allocate additional funding for mental health services;*
- *Be It Finally Resolved, that this resolution be sent to the University President, Vice President of Student Affairs, and the Counseling Center for further consideration.*

4. Closing and Sponsorship

Include the names of the individuals or groups sponsoring the resolution and the date of adoption.

- **Format:**
 - *Sponsored by: [Names of SGA members or committees]*
 - *Adopted on: [Date of adoption by SGA]*

Example:

- *Sponsored by: Jane Smith, SGA President; Jone Doe, SGA Senator*
- *Adopted on: October 23, 2024*

III. Formatting Guidelines

1. **Text Alignment and Indentation:**
 - Center the title at the top of the page.
 - Each "Whereas" and "Resolved" clause should be on its own line and indented for readability.
2. **Punctuation:**

- Each "Resolved" clause ends with a semicolon, except the last one, which ends with a period.
3. **Numbering and Sections:**
- You may number the resolved clauses if there are multiple actions being proposed.
 - Group similar actions together for clarity.
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IV. Finalizing and Presenting the Resolution

1. **Review and Edit:** Ensure all factual information is accurate, and the language is clear and concise. Avoid overly complex language.
 2. **Seek Feedback:** Share the draft with other SGA members, student organizations, or university stakeholders for input.
 3. **SGA Meeting Presentation:** Present the resolution at an SGA meeting. Be prepared to explain the rationale behind each clause and answer questions.
 4. **Voting:** After discussion, the resolution will be tabled for consideration. At the following meeting the resolution can be put to a vote. If approved, it becomes the formal stance of the SGA.
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V. Example of a Full Resolution
