**Associated Student Government**

*University of Arkansas*

*ASG Senate Resolution No. 18*

Author(s): Senator Warrington Sebree, Senator Nabil Bhimani,

Sponsor(s): Senator Kianna Sarvestani, Senator Natalie Ceniceros, Senator James Gairhan, Senator Cecil Kidenda, Senator Sam Pierce, Senator Mallory Mixon, Senator Tara Barsotti, Senator Olivia Chambers, Senator Emily Daniels, Senator Audra Karabinos, Senator Lizeth Martinez, Senator Kendall Perkins

**A Resolution to Support the “Walk the Xtra Mile” Homeless March**

Whereas, Homelessness has become a increasingly large issue in Northwest Arkansas; and

Whereas, On January 25th there was a count conducted that found that 474 people were homeless in Northwest Arkansas; and

Whereas, There has been a 10 percent increase in homelessness statewide, while the national homeless population has remained the same; and

Whereas, The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development currently defines being homeless as “people living in transitional housing, an emergency shelter, or places not meant for human habitation; and

Whereas, From 2007 and 2017, the University of Arkansas’ Community and Family Institute counted homeless people in the region; and

Whereas, In 2017 their report found that there were 2,951 homeless residents in the area, however only 330 met the federal criteria outlined by HUD

Whereas. Due to the restrictive definition of a homeless person outlined by HUD, there are large discrepancies in the actual homeless population that do not account for people that were in unreachable areas during the count, students, and people who are at serious risk of becoming homeless

Whereas, The University of Arkansas’ Associated Student Government vision, as outlined by President Gairhan, is “to represent the common interests and voice of all students” and to place that vision at the forefront of every one of our programming, advocation, and philanthropic goals; and

Whereas, There are students who are coordinating the second annual homeless march called: “Walk the Xtra Mile” to support, bring awareness to, and address the homeless epidemic effecting this region; and

Whereas, The march will take place on Sunday, April 7th, 2019 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm starting and ending at the Fayetteville 7hills Homeless Center. The march will kick off a yearlong fundraiser to donate to a homeless shelter or organization that is unspecified at this time; and

Be it therefore resolved: The Associated Student Government Senate advocate to bring light to the homeless epidemic; and

Be it further resolved: Senators, if so moved, will take it upon themselves to advertise the march to their constituents as well as attend the march; and

Be it further resolved: A copy of this resolution be sent to University of Arkansas Chancellor Joseph Steinmetz.

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2018/dec/30/homelessness-counts-in-northwest-arkans/>

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Amendments:

Vote Count: Aye 40 Nay 2 Abstentions

Legislation Status: Passed Yes Failed­ Other

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Colman Betler, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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J.P. Gairhan, ASG President Date