**Associated Student Government**

*University of Arkansas*

*ASG Senate Resolution No. 22*

Author(s): Senator Daniel Webster

Sponsor(s): Senator Kianna Sarvestani, Senator Lizeth Martinez, Senator Hope Davenport, Senator Katelyn Collison, Senator Samantha Gregory, Senator Warrington Sebree, Senator Cecil Kidenda, Senator Sam Peirce, Senator Natalie Ceniceros, Senator Emily Daniels, Senator Tara Barsotti, Senator Shaun Quirk

**A Resolution to Support Including natural hair as a protected right**

Whereas, Natural hair is defined as “hair whose texture hasn’t been altered by chemical straighteners, including relaxers and texturizers,” according to Liveabout.com; and

Whereas, The previously mentioned chemical straighteners can be damaging to one’s hair; and

Whereas, There has just recently been an increase in the representation of natural hair styles in professional settings; and

Whereas, The university does not currently have a policy regarding natural hair protection from discrimination; and

Whereas, According to the University’s Mission and vision for Diversity and Inclusion “Diversity should permeate the very fabric of the University of Arkansas to create an inclusive environment. We will therefore work to diversify along many dimensions our faculty, staff and students and at the same time continue to foster a culture that is welcoming to all;” and

Whereas, There was a video released of a wrestler having to cut off his dreads before a match, though it was not stated in the rules and the referee was suspended pending an investigation of discriminatory acts; and

Whereas, There was a recent lawsuit in New York was filed for discrimination based on natural hair from employers; and

Whereas, The New York City’s human rights commission, according to natlawreview.com, people cannot be discriminated for having “Natural hair, treated or untreated hairstyles such as locs, cornrows, twists, braids, Bantu knots, fades, afros, and/or in an uncut or untrimmed state;” and

Whereas, Some students on the University of Arkansas’ campus have expressed concerns about wearing their natural to meeting, events, and interviews because of fear of how they will be perceived; and

Whereas, The Associated Student Government has supported numerous pieces of legislation in the past that has supported diversity and inclusion on this campus; and

Whereas, The fear of judgement and discrimination could deter students from being involved on campus; then

Be it therefore resolved: That the ASG Senate urges the rest of ASG, other RSOs, and faculty and staff to ensure that they are not discriminating against natural hairstyles and that they are welcoming diversity in all aspects including hair; and

Be it further resolved: That this also encourages the entire university to not discriminate against hair type and to encourage university affiliates to be comfortable wearing their natural hair.

*Official Use Only*

Amendments:

Vote Count: Aye 39 Nay 2 Abstentions 0

Legislation Status: Passed Yes Failed­ Other

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Colman Betler, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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JP Gairhan, ASG President Date