Regarding Medical Amnesty for Ohio College Students.

1. Whereas according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism approximately 1,824 students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor-vehicle crashes, and

2. Whereas by age 18, about 65 percent of teens have had at least one drink, and

3. Whereas four out of five college students drink alcohol, and

4. Whereas half of those who drink consume alcohol through binge drinking, and

5. Whereas alcohol poisoning can lead to permanent brain damage or death, and

6. Whereas Oxford Fire Department made 21 alcohol-related runs within one single February weekend and seven underage students were hospitalized on that Thursday and Friday, and

7. Whereas The University Impact Assessment from 2016 identified an alcohol amnesty program as a goal for the institution and city, and

8. Whereas the university currently has its own amnesty policy, but students aren’t aware it exists, and it does not safeguard from interactions with city or state officials, and

9. Whereas since the death of Sam Dubose, the city of Cincinnati has apparently been reluctant to implement a policy that would treat certain citizens differently than other citizens, including in the case of medical amnesty for minors, and

10. Whereas at the suggestion of Aniesha Mitchell, Director of the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, we’ve recognized the next way to reach medical amnesty is to lobby the state for a more robust policy, and

11. Whereas the current Good Samaritan law tackles the opioid crisis and does not allow provisions protection from underage drinking charges, and

12. Whereas we want students to feel comfortable seeking medical attention if needed, and

13. Whereas many other city and state medical amnesty laws have stemmed from student governments, such as in Minnesota and Nebraska, and
14. Whereas evaluations of the governmental affairs committee from 2016-2017 identified a goal oflobbying during the fall semester;

15. Therefore, be it resolved that, the Governmental Affairs Committee will work to lobby with the University of Cincinnati and other institutions on the issue of expanding the Good Samaritan Law in the state of Ohio to include medical amnesty for alcohol abuse.

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