



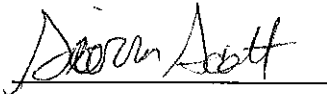
**Introduced By:** Chair Kevin Olsen  
**Sponsored By:** Chair Friant  
**Contact:** sgagap@ucf.edu  
**First Reading:** January 25, 2019  
**Committee Action:** Adopted in Committee 7-0-1  
**Second Reading:** January 31, 2019; 41-0-1  
**Third Reading:** January 31, 2019  
**Final Vote:** 41-0-0

University of Central Florida  
Fifty-First Student Body Senate  
Resolution 51-13

[Resolution Expressing the UCF Student Body's Support of Florida HB 257]

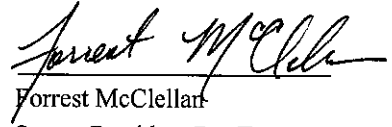
1 **WHEREAS**, Senate Rule 2.01(D) (6) states that the Government Affairs & Policy Committee (GAP) shall  
2 introduce resolutions in a special session that establish the Legislative Priorities of the Student Government  
3 Association following the Senate Election, but no later than thirty (30) days prior to Florida's legislative session;  
4 **WHEREAS**, Senate Rule 5.01 (C) (2) states that a Resolution pertains to every measure expressing the sentiment of  
5 the Student Body Senate;  
6 **WHEREAS**, University of Central Florida alumna and current Florida House Representative Amber Mariano (R-  
7 36) introduced Florida House Bill (HB-257), entitled *Excess Credit Hour Surcharges*;  
8 **WHEREAS**, The current system of Excess Hour Surcharge serves as a financial barrier to successful completion of  
9 a Bachelor's degree;  
10 **WHEREAS**, The Student Body Senate has previously expressed sentiment in Resolution 37-10 in opposition to the  
11 excess credit hour surcharge, that "Quality, affordable education is the right of every student";  
12 **WHEREAS**, Students at the University of Central Florida and other state universities incur this surcharge when  
13 they reach 110% of the required credit hours for the undergraduate baccalaureate program;  
14 **WHEREAS**, According to the University Registrar, an average of 1,000 students are impacted by this charge yearly  
15 at our university alone;  
16 **WHEREAS**, Raising the threshold for the Excess Credit Surcharge application to 120% would significantly ease  
17 the burden on college students allowing them more flexibility in scheduling;  
18 **WHEREAS**, Students of all majors and socioeconomic backgrounds are affected by Excess Credit Surcharge;  
19 **WHEREAS**, A large number of students affected are of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics  
20 (STEM) major classification, which will serve as a great benefit to society with their enhanced science and math-  
21 based skills upon graduation;  
22 **WHEREAS**, Rep. Mariano supported this notion in a press release stating that "Students should not be penalized for  
23 their curiosity to learn. Students across our university system are struck with this surcharge, and it hits our STEM  
24 students the hardest"; and  
25 **WHEREAS**, Lessening this burden will reduce obstacles faced by students who are preparing to make an impact in  
26 the State of Florida.  
27  
28 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That it is the opinion of the Fifty-First Student Body Senate of the  
29 University of Central Florida that the Florida Legislature approve HB-257 so that the Excess Credit Surcharge  
30 will not be applied until a student reaches 120% of the required credit hours for their baccalaureate program,  
31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Vice President for Government  
32 Relations and Associate General Counsel for UCF Janet Owen, Florida House Speaker José R. Oliva, Chair  
33 Cord Byrd, Vice Chair Amber Mariano, Representative Carlos Guillermo Smith, all members of the House  
34 Higher Education & Career Readiness Subcommittee, all members of the House Higher Education  
35 Appropriations Subcommittee, and all members of the House Education Committee.

**AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**



Sierra Scott  
Senate President

2-06-19  
Date



Forrest McClellan  
Senate President Pro Tempore

6 Feb 2019  
Date