

Wichita State University

Student Government Association

61st Session of the Student Senate

TITLE: R-61-005: Solidarity with Separated Children and Families

AUTHOR(S): Ciaban Canales Peterson, Business Senator
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SPONSOR(S): Wichita State University, Hispanic American Leadership Organization
Diversity Task Force
Kathlynn Short, Out of State Senator
Michael Bearth, Veterans' Senator
Haley Ensz, Fine Arts Senator
Jaiden Soupene, Liberal Arts & Sciences Senator
Wichita State University, Student Veterans Organization

DATE: October 24, 2018

1 WHEREAS the United States signed and ratified the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of
2 Refugees with over 140 other nations which outlines the rights of the displaced as
3 well as the legal obligations of the States to protect them; and,

4 WHEREAS United States customs and immigration authorities unnecessarily separated
5 families and detained over 10,000 children as late as early June 2018; and,

6 WHEREAS more than 200 children are still separated from and remain in U.S. custody,
7 some in foster homes and some still in administrative limbo; and,

8 WHEREAS The American Academy of Pediatrics, The American Psychological Association
9 on Immigration, and other experts have warned that jailing children and parents can
10 severely damage their physical and mental health; and,

11 WHEREAS detaining children and families may cause them irreparable harm with lifelong
12 consequences; and,

13 WHEREAS the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), run by The U.S. Department of
14 Health and Human Services (HHS), have placed detained children into foster homes:
15 with family members residing in the United States or in homes located by or run by
16 non-governmental agencies; and,

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17 WHEREAS the current U. S. agencies that are needed to receive detained children are not
18 designed to bring large amounts of children into foster care and therefore increases
19 their detainment length; and,

20 WHEREAS according to the Department of Children and Families, Kansas has 63 missing
21 or runaway youth in the state's foster system in August 2018. A marginal percentage
22 of Children in the Foster System in Kansas also experienced sleeping in offices, due
23 to a shortage of foster homes across the state; and,

24 WHEREAS while understandably dire, relocating separated children to Kansas has increased
25 their own personal burden (within stressed systems) and has added to an already
26 wavering state system; and,

27 WHEREAS there is very little data transparency from U.S. government agencies on this
28 matter, especially regarding the data necessary to be proactive in these dire situations;
29 and,

30 WHEARAS The United States is looked upon as a world leader and Wichita State University
31 should take a stand and voice concerns with national detrimental practices; and,

32 WHEREAS advocacy is action; therefore

33 BE IT RESOLVED that the 61st Session of Student Government Association stands in
34 solidarity with the separated children and families on the United States Border; and,

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any organization willing to voice their concerns,
36 research, or stories are encouraged to reach out to the 61st Session of Student
37 Government Association for Town Halls or Public Forums; and,

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 61st Session of Student Government Association
39 recommends that the Trump Administration makes a significant push for better data
40 practices and transparency with reports; and,

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 61st Session of Student Government Association
42 urges Congress to revise and enact legislation that supports practical and humane
43 immigration policies that are sustainable and efficient while also considering national
44 security and public safety; and furthermore, to follow supported policies of the
45 American Psychological Association on Immigration; and,

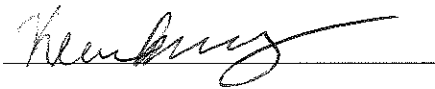
46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded with respect to Dr.
47 John Bardo, President of the University; Dr. Terri Hall, Vice President of Student
48 Affairs; the Office of the President of the United States, Donald Trump; the Office of

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the Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House; the Office of the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader; the Office of the Honorable Jerry Moran, Senator from Kansas; the Office of the Honorable Pat Roberts, Senator from Kansas; the Offices of Representatives from Kansas, the Honorable Roger Marshall, the Honorable Lynn Jenkins, the Honorable Kevin Yoder, and the Office of the Honorable Ron Estes; the Office of the Honorable Jeff Colyer, Governor of Kansas; the Office of the Honorable Susan Wagle, President of the Kansas Senate; the Office of the Honorable Anthony Hensley, Minority Leader of the Kansas Senate; the Office of the Honorable Ron Ryckman, Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives; the Office of the Honorable Jim Ward, Minority Leader of the Kansas House of Representatives; Mr. Noah Ries, Student Body President, University of Kansas; Ms. Jordan Kiehl, Student Body President, Kansas State University; Mr. Michael Webb, Student Body President, Emporia State University; Mr. Kyle Frank, Student Body President, Pittsburg State University; Mr. Adam Schibi, Student Body President, Fort Hays State University; and the Sunflower, the Student Newspaper of Wichita State University.

APPROVED: 24th Day of October, 2018



Kenon Brinkley

Student Body President

10-26-18

Date



Shelby Rowell

President of the Senate

10-30-18

Date