

Proposition: 6-22/23

Proposal Type: Bill Resolution Memorial Joint Proposition Other
(If Joint proposition, also select type)

Title: A Resolution to Express Support for Reporting Victimization

Date Submitted: 2/16/2023

Sponsor(s): Fahrenbruck (TPAL), Trujillo (CJUS)

Proposed Committee: We request that this be handled as emergency legislation

Prior Approvals: N/A- this is a resolution

Proposal: A Resolution to Express Support for Reporting Victimization

Whereas: We represent the faculty at an HSI, MSI land-grant university, where we value leadership, excellence, and student-centered education;

Whereas: We recognize that victims of hazing, violence and sexual assault face many barriers to reporting their victimization. Among these barriers are 1) deep feelings of shame, embarrassment, guilt and not wanting friends and family to know, 2) fear that their victimization becomes public knowledge, 3) fear that their allegations will not be believed or taken seriously, 4) fear that the perpetrator(s) will retaliate, and 5) for male victims especially, fear that their sexuality and/or masculinity will be harshly judged¹;

Whereas: We recognize that reducing victimization relies on victims and witnesses to report and, too often the victims of hazing, violence, sexual assault and harassment seemingly fade into the shadows- left to feel alone and unsupported;

Whereas: We are bound by federal and state laws to address allegations of violence, sexual assault and harassment that occur in the NMSU community;

Whereas: We respect and trust NMSU Administration to take appropriate steps in investigating and responding to the recent (2023) hazing incident(s). We further recognize our unique position to commend victim-survivors and witnesses for coming forward to report their experiences thus not allowing the disgusting actions of a few to stain the university community;

¹ Adhia, A., Ellyson, A. M., & Kroshus, E. (2023). Prevalence and formal reporting of sexual violence among undergraduate student-athletes: a multi-state study. *Journal of interpersonal violence, 38*(1-2), NP418-NP442

Campo, S., Poulos, G., & Sipple, J. W. (2005). Prevalence and profiling: Hazing among college students and points of intervention. *American journal of health behavior, 29*(2), 137-149.

Mennicke, A., Bowling, J., Gromer, J., & Ryan, C. (2021). Factors associated with and barriers to disclosure of a sexual assault to formal on-campus resources among college students. *Violence against women, 27*(2), 255-273.

Sable, M. R., Danis, F., Mauzy, D. L., & Gallagher, S. K. (2006). Barriers to reporting sexual assault for women and men: Perspectives of college students. *Journal of American College Health, 55*(3), 157-162.

Whereas: We can follow the courage of the recent hazing victim-survivor and stand with them, in solidarity against any and all hazing, sexual assault, and victimization in the NMSU community;

and Whereas: We appreciate and champion measures that prioritize the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the NMSU community;

Therefore: We express our pride in and support for students, faculty, and staff whose bravery to report their experiences with or witness to hazing, violence, and harassment of any nature, embodies the values of the NMSU community.