

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 192

Expressing the sense of the Senate that institutions of higher education should carry out activities to change the culture of alcohol consumption on college campuses.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 1998

Mr. BIDEN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that institutions of higher education should carry out activities to change the culture of alcohol consumption on college campuses.

Whereas many college presidents rank alcohol abuse as the number one problem on campus;

Whereas alcohol is a factor in the 3 leading causes of death for individuals aged 15 through 24 (accidents, homicides, and suicides);

Whereas more than any other group, college students tend to consume large numbers of drinks in rapid succession with the intention of becoming drunk;

Whereas 84 percent of college students report drinking alcohol during the school year, with 44 percent of all college

students qualifying as binge drinkers and 19 percent of all college students qualifying as frequent binge drinkers;

Whereas alcohol is involved in a large percentage of all campus rapes, violent crimes, student suicides, and fraternity hazing accidents;

Whereas heavy alcohol consumption on college campuses can result in drunk driving crashes, hospitalization for alcohol overdoses, trouble with police, injury, missed classes, and academic failure;

Whereas the second-hand effects of student alcohol consumption range from assault, property damage, and unwanted sexual advances, to interruptions in study or sleep, or having to “babysit” another student who drank too much; and

Whereas campus binge drinking can also lead to the death of our Nation’s young and promising students: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*,

2 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

3 This resolution may be cited as “The Collegiate Initiative To Reduce Binge Drinking Resolution”.

5 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE SENATE.**

6 It is the sense of the Senate that, in an effort to change the culture of alcohol consumption on college campuses, all institutions of higher education should carry out the following:

10 (1) The president of the institution should appoint a task force consisting of school administra-

1 tors, faculty, students, Greek system representatives,
2 and others to conduct a full examination of student
3 and academic life at the institution. The task force
4 should make recommendations for a broad range of
5 policy and program changes that would serve to re-
6 duce alcohol and other drug-related problems. The
7 institution should provide resources to assist the
8 task force in promoting the campus policies and pro-
9 posed environmental changes that have been identi-
10 fied.

11 (2) The institution should provide maximum op-
12 portunities for students to live in an alcohol-free en-
13 vironment and to engage in stimulating, alcohol-free
14 recreational and leisure activities.

15 (3) The institution should enforce a “zero toler-
16 ance” policy on the illegal consumption of alcohol by
17 its students and should take steps to reduce the op-
18 portunities for students, faculty, staff, and alumni to
19 legally consume alcohol on campus.

20 (4) The institution should vigorously enforce its
21 code of disciplinary sanctions for those who violate
22 campus alcohol policies. Students with alcohol or
23 other drug-related problems should be referred to an
24 on-campus counseling program.

6 (6) Recognizing that school-centered policies on
7 alcohol will be unsuccessful if local businesses sell al-
8 coholt to underage or intoxicated students, the insti-
9 tution should form a “Town/Gown” alliance with
10 community leaders. That alliance should encourage
11 local commercial establishments that promote or sell
12 alcoholic beverages to curtail illegal student access to
13 alcohol and adopt responsible alcohol marketing and
14 service practices.

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