LSU FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 15–12

TO OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 707, THE LOUISIANA MARRIAGE AND CONSCIENCE ACT

Sponsored by Stephanie Braunstein, LSU Libraries

Whereas Louisiana State University has demonstrated its commitment to diversity in several ways, including the 1999 creation of an Office of Diversity, headed by a Vice Provost of Campus Diversity; and

Whereas that Office has, on its official website, a Diversity Statement that includes the following two pertinent paragraphs:

LSU recognizes that achieving national prominence depends on the human spirit, participation, and dedicated work of the entire University community. Flagship: 2020 will be realized by bringing together diverse ideas, perspectives, skills, and talents of the nation’s pre-eminent scholars, brightest students, and leading higher education professionals.

Through its Commitment to Community; LSU strives to create an inclusive, respectful, intellectually challenging climate that embraces individual difference in race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, spirituality, socio-economic status, disability, family status, experiences, opinions, and ideas; and

Whereas Louisiana State University’s Faculty Senate supports the University’s goals of “bringing together diverse ideas, perspectives, skills, and talents of the nation’s pre-eminent scholars, brightest students, and leading higher education professionals”; and

Whereas Louisiana State University’s Faculty Senate also supports the University’s goals of “... creat[ing] an inclusive, respectful, intellectually challenging climate that embraces individual difference in race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, spirituality, socio-economic status, disability, family status, experiences, opinions, and ideas”; and
Whereas the recent legislation proposed by Representative Mike Johnson (R-Bossier City), HB 707, is commonly perceived to be legislation that would open the door to discrimination against the LGBT community in Louisiana; and

Whereas in order for Louisiana state University to recruit and retain a diverse faculty, the laws of the state must not be seen as discriminatory to any group;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Louisiana State University Faculty Senate opposes House Bill 707 and any other proposed legislation that would negatively impact the goals of building and maintaining a diverse faculty on its campus.