



Student Senate of Stockton University

Resolution Sp25-001

Resolution to Prohibit the Use of Mylar Balloons on Campus Properties

- Whereas,** the Student Senate is the elected voice of over 8600 students who attend Stockton University; and,
- Whereas,** Stockton University has taken other steps to become more ecologically and environmentally friendly, such as the inclusion of bird strike prevention measures on buildings around campus, and planting of native plants across campus; and,
- Whereas,** Mylar balloons are non-recyclable, non-biodegradable, and tens of thousands are collected as pollution from waterways and other ecosystems every year; and,
- Whereas,** Mylar balloons are known to pose severe risks to wildlife, by blocking digestive systems when accidentally consumed, leaching chemicals and pollutants into waterways and the ocean, being mistaken as nest-building materials for threatened and endangered birds of prey, including ospreys, and the entanglement of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife; and,
- Whereas,** Stockton University's Galloway campus is located less than 15 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, the Mullica River, and the Great Bay, and is located on a Pinelands National Reserve, and where Stockton University's Atlantic City campus is located directly next to the Atlantic Ocean, Stockton University's close proximity to these ecosystems warrants an obligation to take additional precautions to prevent any environmental harm; and,
- Whereas,** Mylar balloons can also pose a threat to facilities and structures, as they can cause power outages when entangled in power lines, potentially leading to forest fires. They can also obstruct water drains and become entangled on structures such as streetlights and hanging signs; and,

Whereas, Stockton University can become proactive in implementing environmentally friendly initiatives and policy changes to set an example for other institutions of higher education; and,

Whereas, The Stockton Student Senate encourages the use of sustainable, reusable, and environmentally conscious decorations for all campus events; and,

Be it Resolved, We commit that no recognized student organization will use funds from the Student Activity Fee to purchase mylar balloons for their events or endeavors; and,

We call on Stockton University to join us in prohibiting the use of mylar balloons on or off campus properties for all events, whether University sponsored or otherwise; and,

We call on The Office of Campus Center Operations and Event Services, as well as the Division of Facilities and Operations to assist in the enforcement of the balloon prohibition while approving and preparing events and spaces; and,

Be it Resolved, The Stockton Student Senate submits this resolution to the Biodiversity Committee, Senior Vice President for Facilities & Operations, Faculty Senate of Stockton University, Staff Senate of Stockton University, and the Director of Campus Center Operations.

President Andrea Sandoval
Student Senate President

Vice President Vlad Vasylyk
Student Senate Vice President