

Student Government Resolution 114.005
A Resolution in Support of Allowing the Use of Longboards
as a Means of Transportation on the Truman State University Campus
Sponsored by Senator Marco Swan, Student Affairs Chair Jake Buxton, Grants and Sponsorships
Chair Greg Jochems and Senator George Wood

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- Although there is no current policy on longboarding, longboarding is often seen as skateboarding, which is prohibited at Truman State University¹; and
- Bicycles are allowed on campus²; and
- The use of a longboard³ is comparable to the use of a bike, if both are used as a means of transportation; and
- A longboard is significantly different from a skateboard; and
- The use of a longboard when used for transportation is safer than a typical skateboard, primarily because of the “wheel base”⁴ and the size of the wheels that are necessary to support a deck of such great length, which results in greater stability; and
- The stability not only allows the rider to balance with greater ease, but also allows for “carving”⁵ to control speed and “foot-braking”⁶ to come to a quick and complete stop; and
- The increased wheel diameter of longboards allows riders to skate over cracks or sidewalk blemishes without resistance, thus reducing the risk of falls resulting from wheels becoming caught on pavement surfaces; and
- The different size and wheels of a longboard do not allow for “tricks”, which could result in injuries or property damage; and
- A recent survey, with 804 students participating, shows that only 16% of the student body is against allowing the use of longboards as a means of transportation on campus.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Supports allowing the use of longboards as a means of transportation on campus, while following the same traffic rules as bicyclists on campus.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT

¹ <http://csi.truman.edu/handbook/skating.asp>

² <http://csi.truman.edu/handbook/bikes.asp>

³ For the purpose of this resolution, “longboard” will be defined as any skateboard exceeding 36” in deck length

⁴ The distance between the front and rear wheels

⁵ “Carving” is the act of turning while riding to create resistance that results in reduced speed.

⁶ “Foot-braking” is the act dragging the sole of one’s shoe against the pavement while riding to reduce speed more quickly.

Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to the University Board of Governors, University President Troy Paino, Department of Public Safety, Dean of Student Affairs Lou Ann Gilchrist, and the Truman Media Network.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Matt Cooper

President of the Student Government