



### **Student Government Resolution 116.038**

#### **A Resolution Supporting the Placement of a Suicide Prevention Hotline Phone Number on Student Identification Cards**

**Sponsored by Keaton Leppanen, Student Affairs Chair; Lucasana Barker, Jake Harris, and Adam Childers-Arnold, Voting Senators**

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 University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- Student identification cards no longer serve as debit cards through US bank; and
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students; and
- Missouri has the 18th highest state suicide rate in the nation; and
- Truman State University Counseling Services has seen its number of clients more than double over the past 10 years<sup>3</sup>; and
- Over 50% of Truman State University students have reported having suicidal thoughts in their lifetime<sup>4</sup>; and
- Over 26% of Truman State University students have reported experiencing major depression in the last year<sup>5</sup>; and
- Over 62.5% of Truman State University students have reported feelings of overwhelming anxiety in the last year<sup>6</sup>; and
- Over 11.9% of Truman State University students reported having seriously considered suicide in the last year; and
- Over 2% of Truman State University students have reported attempting suicide within the past year; and
- A suicide prevention hotline number on the back of student identification cards would be more readily accessible to students; and
- A more readily accessible suicide prevention hotline number could decrease the amount of attempted suicides; and
- The mental health and well-being of Truman students is a priority for the University and the Student Government.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- That the Student Government voices its support for a suicide prevention hotline phone number to be printed on all new student identification cards starting with the class of 2021; and

- Recognizes Truman State University's continued willingness to make student mental health a priority.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to President, Susan Thomas; Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Richard Coughlin; Vice President for Student Affairs, Lou Ann Gilchrist; Director of the Department of Public Safety Sara Holzmeier; Director of the Student Health Center and University Counseling Services, Brenda Higgins; Assistant Director of University Counseling Services, Joe Hamilton; Director of Disability Services, Michelle Blakely; Director of Residence Life John Gardner; ID Coordinator, Gretchen Dahl; University Archives; and the Truman Media Network.

Approved by: Unanimous Consent 2/12/17

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JJ Dorrell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

President of the Student Association, JJ Dorrell