



**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

**15th Session – October 11, 2022**

**GPSG**

**D.R. #4**

Sponsor: Delegate John Dickens on behalf of Director Guadalupe

GPSG Action **Passed**/Failed/Tabled

**A RESOLUTION**

On the subject of accessible reproductive healthcare for all applicable at the University of Iowa.

---

**Section 1: Short Title**

This resolution may be cited as the “Joint Resolution on the subject of Reproductive Healthcare Accessibility.”

**Section 2: Background and Discussion**

**WHEREAS**, access to reproductive health information and services is critical to the well-being of adults, youth, and families around the world and is closely linked to various aspects of people’s lives including workforce participation, educational attainment, healthy relationships, as well as

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.usaid.gov/global-health/health-areas/reproductive-health>

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.who.int/health-topics/sexual-health#tab=tab>

<sup>[3]</sup> <https://plan-international.org/srhr/access-to-srhr-services/>

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/05/ten-things-state-policymakers-can-do-protect-access-reproductive-health-care-during>

<sup>[5]</sup> <https://www.onlineu.com/resources/reproductive-health-care-college>

<sup>[6]</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db388.htm>

<sup>[7]</sup> <https://sexualitystudies.indiana.edu>

<sup>[8]</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666334120300386>

social and economic mobility<sup>[1]</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) defines reproductive health as an integral component of complete well-being, noting that reproductive health indicates that people “...have a responsible, satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so” as well as access to “safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of fertility regulation”<sup>[2]</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, when people are informed about reproductive health, they are equipped with the knowledge, confidence, and skills to make autonomous and healthy decisions about their bodies and relationships<sup>[3]</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding accessibility of reproductive health services to include telehealth options allows people to interact with health care providers while practicing social distancing to reduce exposure to COVID-19 and offers more flexibility to meet with health care providers <sup>[4]</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, 52% of college students have been sexually active within the past 12 months based on the latest data from the [National College Health Assessment](#), and only 27% of college students reported always using a condom or other protective barrier<sup>[5]</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, a reproductive emergency could prevent a person from continuing their education and eventually prevent them from graduating if not provided with the proper access to reproductive care; and,

**WHEREAS**, as of 2019 65.3% of all individuals menstruating were using a form of contraceptive accessible through reproductive health providers<sup>[6]</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, other Big 10 schools such as Indiana University have already taken steps to ensure their students, staff, and faculty will always have the necessary access to reproductive healthcare on campus<sup>[7]</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, reproductive healthcare affects several other body systems and is vital to eliminating

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.usaid.gov/global-health/health-areas/reproductive-health>

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.who.int/health-topics/sexual-health#tab=tab>

<sup>[3]</sup> <https://plan-international.org/srhr/access-to-srhr-services/>

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/05/ten-things-state-policymakers-can-do-protect-access-reproductive-health-care-during>

<sup>[5]</sup> <https://www.onlineu.com/resources/reproductive-health-care-college>

<sup>[6]</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db388.htm>

<sup>[7]</sup> <https://sexualitystudies.indiana.edu>

<sup>[8]</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666334120300386>

health disparities, reducing rates of infectious diseases and infertility, increasing educational attainment, career opportunities, and financial stability; and,

**WHEREAS**, providing students with proper sexual and reproductive healthcare will give them access to most long- and short-acting reversible contraception<sup>[8]</sup>; and,

### **Section 3: Action**

**Resolved**, the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) and the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) at the University of Iowa respectfully encourage University Officials to continue to support reproductive healthcare at the University of Iowa and for all persons in the University of Iowa community to utilize university reproductive health services, ensuring the health and safety of our faculty, staff, and student body.

**Resolved**, GPSG and USG recommend appropriate consideration and plans be made for the University of Iowa Student Health/University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics facilities to provide quality care to all persons seeking reproductive services and increase awareness of reproductive services offered to all university students, faculty, and staff.

**Therefore, be it resolved that**, upon passage by the Graduate and Professional Student Government at the University of Iowa, and with a signature from President Crow, the University of Iowa continues offering students with reproductive health resources, drafts a plan of action to offer widespread access to reproductive healthcare services and resources, and immediately enact a policy to increase funding and accessibility to reproductive health services on the University of Iowa campus for faculty, staff, and students.

### **4. Enactment Clause**

**THEREFORE**, be it enacted by the University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signature of the President.

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.usaid.gov/global-health/health-areas/reproductive-health>

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.who.int/health-topics/sexual-health#tab=tab>

<sup>[3]</sup> <https://plan-international.org/srhr/access-to-srhr-services/>

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/05/ten-things-state-policymakers-can-do-protect-access-reproductive-health-care-during>

<sup>[5]</sup> <https://www.onlineu.com/resources/reproductive-health-care-college>

<sup>[6]</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db388.htm>

<sup>[7]</sup> <https://sexualitystudies.indiana.edu>

<sup>[8]</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666334120300386>

IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

Grace Bryant  
Cabinet Director

APPROVED:

Amber D. Crow  
GPSG President

10/11/2022  
Date

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.usaid.gov/global-health/health-areas/reproductive-health>

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.who.int/health-topics/sexual-health#tab=tab>

<sup>[3]</sup> <https://plan-international.org/srhr/access-to-srhr-services/>

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/05/ten-things-state-policymakers-can-do-protect-access-reproductive-health-care-during>

<sup>[5]</sup> <https://www.onlineu.com/resources/reproductive-health-care-college>

<sup>[6]</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db388.htm>

<sup>[7]</sup> <https://sexualitystudies.indiana.edu>

<sup>[8]</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666334120300386>