**A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED ACT TO:**

**Preferred Name**

**Short Title:** Preferred Name

**Authored by:** Kayani Morrow, Izaria Turner

**Co- Authored by:** Justin Walhart

**Sponsored by:** [ Orgs, Departments, etc. that back your resolution, this can be deleted]

**\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_** *Below for Senate Leadership* **\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_**

**Resolution Number:** [S23-07]

**First Reading:** 3/20/23 **Second Reading:** [Date Presented to Senate]

**Referred to:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREA**S. Western Carolina University (WCU) is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion of the students and faculty, so therefore should respect every student’s identity and pronouns; and,

WHEREAS, WCU already has a preferred name policy in affect as seen in the University Policy 125 “Western Carolina University (University or WCU) recognizes that faculty, staff, and/or students may prefer to use a name that is different from their legal name on certain university documents and correspondences.  To the maximum extent possible, the university will respect the wishes of its faculty, staff, and students and use the preferred name in certain instances as described in this policy’; and,

WHEREAS, This policy allows students and faculty of WCU to fully engage with their classes, organizations, internships, and other impactful educational practices without fear of ridicule; and,

WHEREAS, This policy fails to protect the privacy of some students on campus who have chosen not to disclose the decisions of going by their preferred name; and,

WHEREAS, Students come to college to become their authentic selves without judgement from family and peers; and,

WHEREAS, This policy fails to give students the opportunity to have a choice in what name is communicated on advertisement mail and etc. which then is distributed back to the homes away from campus; and,

WHEREAS, If some students who have chosen to use a preferred name and pronouns have not communicated this to the family and peers, we are negatively affecting the social, mental, and wellbeing of our students at WCU; and,

WHEREAS, This does not follow WCU’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and fails to promote the health and safety of students; and,

**Therefore, Be It Resolved That:** Western Carolina University considers the recommendation on including an option for students to select which name be distributed when sending ads or newsletters and anything requiring non-legal information to be sent to the student’s family or peers.

Senate Vote: Aye: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nay: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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CJ Mitchell Date

Office of the Student Body Vice President

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Office of the Student Body President