

Joint Statement from Adjunct Faculty United AFT Local 6106, CSEA Chapter 167, and United Faculty CTA/NEA:

We, the undersigned labor unions representing over 2,000 faculty and classified professionals in the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD), firmly oppose the resolution put forth by Trustee Ryan Bent to ban all flags and banners representing student, faculty, and staff groups within the district. This proposal directly infringes upon the principles of free speech, a fundamental right protected by the First Amendment, especially within a public educational institution.


It is particularly concerning that this resolution emerged immediately after Pride Month, indicating a targeted and discriminatory approach towards the LGBTQIA+ community. By attempting to restrict the display of flags and banners, Trustee Bent's proposal undermines the principles of inclusivity and diversity that are crucial in fostering a welcoming and supportive environment within an educational institution. We strongly condemn any measures that perpetuate discrimination and hinder the celebration of diverse identities and perspectives.

The proposed resolution is detrimental to the NOCCCD community as a whole, as it stifles open dialogue, curtails the ability to express oneself, and restricts the vibrant exchange of ideas that is essential for a robust educational experience. Student, faculty, and staff groups are not perpetrators of hate and do not pose a threat. The claim that our foundational principles of diversity in thought and perspectives would lead to lower student enrollment is both false and cruel.


As representatives of the NOCCCD faculty and classified professionals, we call upon the NOCCCD Board of Trustees to protect the rights of all community members and uphold the principles of free speech and inclusivity by rejecting this proposal unequivocally.

Signed,


Representative of Adjunct Faculty United AFT Local 6106

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Representative of CSEA Chapter 167

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Representative of United Faculty CTA

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