

Bill 5028-N-021505

-A bill to create a steering committee to find solutions to the crisis of the off-campus shuttle service during weekdays

Author: Akbar Shetty

Sponsors: Parag Dhumal, Ashley Nickel, Jeff Koha

I. Defining the Problem

- a. The University of Toledo is offering serious consideration to the reduction or complete elimination of the off-campus shuttle service.
- b. The off-campus shuttle service is an essential lifeline for students who live off-campus.
- c. There is a strong correlation between providing the off-campus service and the ability for students to do research work on campus, which brings in significant research grants to The University of Toledo.
- d. If The University of Toledo does not offer housing for graduate students on-campus, it has an obligation for providing a way for these students to come to campus.
- e. An overwhelming number of graduate students and international students reside in Kenwood Gardens and Hampshire Heights because they are one of the most affordable apartment complexes close to campus.
- f. Many of these students cannot afford or are not eligible to reside on campus, cannot afford a car, or are not eligible for a driver's license in their first year of enrollment.
- g. The University of Toledo administration could do more in the way of informing the students of this impending crisis or taking their input in the development of solutions that both addresses off-campus students' needs and is cost effective.

II. The Solution

- a. The University of Toledo Student Government will work with the affected student population (undergraduate, graduate, and international students), administration and Toledo City Council to take the necessary proactive steps to address and find cost-effective solutions for the transportation crisis by taking into account past discussions, student input, cost and revenues of operating the off-campus shuttle services, and helping The University of Toledo administration to establish contacts with TARTA and members of the Toledo City Council.

III. Method of Solution

- a. A steering committee will be created which will bring together the affected University of Toledo students and The

University of Toledo Staff and Faculty to find solutions to mitigate and avert this crisis.

- b. As prescribed by the governing documents of Student Government, the Student Government President or Vice President shall chair the steering committee, which shall consist of a membership derived from international students, graduate students, and off-campus student organizations as well as other students, faculty, and staff members.
- c. The Chairperson shall serve as the liaison between students and the university administration and other entities while communicating relevant information or implementing the recommendations of the steering committee.
- d. The University of Toledo Student Senate's Legislative Secretary shall make available a copy of this bill to the secretary of the Faculty Senate and The University of Toledo's President's office.