

S22-003

An Act to Hire a Mental Health Counselor Specialized in Eating Disorders for the Counseling Center

Whereas, Tennessee Tech currently has no counselors specialized in eating disorder treatment and very limited resources for students with these struggles, and,

Whereas, According to NEDA since 2011, the percent of college students with eating disorders increased from 7.9 percent to 23.4 percent for men and from 23.4 percent to 32.6 percent for women, and,

Whereas, 4.4 percent to 5.9 percent of students enter college with an untreated eating disorder which translates to 386-517 students as of 2020, and,

Whereas, Students entering college experience a significant change on a day-to-day basis, those with eating disorders are often triggered by change and therefore stress is detrimental to these students.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY THAT

Section 1: This bill shall be known as "An Act to Hire an Eating Disorder Counselor."

Section 2: University funds shall be allotted to hiring an additional counselor specialized in eating disorders, specifically with a Health at Every Size (HAES) focus.

Section 3: Students who have eating disorders requiring external support needs will be given short-term intervention as well as outside referrals for further support.

Section 4: This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Student Government Association, the welfare of the students requiring it.

Respectively Submitted by:

Diana Popa Senator, Freshman Senate

Co-Sponsor(s):

Anya Wegner
Senator, Transfer Senator

Amber Lovell
Senator, College of Business

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Signed: Aaron Lay, President