**First Reading: February 23, 2021**

**Second Reading: March 2, 2021**

**Pass:**

**Fail:**

**Other:**

**Resolution 3-21-S: Support Western Kentucky University’s Naming and Symbols Task Force to Change the Names of Any College, Building, or University Symbol With Ties to Racism or Injustice.**

**PURPOSE:** For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to

support the university’s decision to create a Naming and Symbols Task Force to tackle the recent discovery of many colleges, buildings, and symbols of the university that have been tied to a history of racism and injustice, and to recommend that the task force take action to cut ties with these names.

**WHEREAS:** The university has recently discovered that names such as Potter and Ogden, as well as Van Meter, have ties to slave-owning families and the confederacy. Since the discovery, President Dr. Timothy Caboni has created a Naming and Symbols Task force to navigate through renaming buildings, colleges, and symbols.

**WHEREAS:** Bowling Green was once the capital of the Confederacy and WKU has taken steps, such as removing the KY Historical Marker from the main campus, to cut ties from Bowling Green’s history of racism and injustice to create a campus that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**WHEREAS:** The university is looking to make steps towards systemic change by creating this task force as well as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion task force to support any and all Hilltoppers.

**WHEREAS:** It is a part of the Student Government’s Association’s constitutional duty to encourage diversity and tolerance to all groups and this resolution goes alongside previous successful resolutions which showed the students’ support of cutting ties with racial injustice.

**THEREFORE:** Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University supports the University’s Naming and Symbols Task Force in making a recommendation to shift away from names and symbols tied to racial injustice.

**AUTHORS:** Brenna Mathews, Tess Welch

**SPONSORS:** Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Legislative Research Committee

**CONTACTS:** Brenna Mathews – [brenna.mathews889@topper.wku.edu](mailto:brenna.mathews889@topper.wku.edu)

Tess Welch -- [tess.welch788@topper.wku.edu](mailto:tess.welch788@topper.wku.edu)