A Resolution to Eliminate Non-Reusable Plastic Water Bottles from Residence Hall Association Meetings and Events

WHEREAS the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the governing body for all on-campus students, and

WHEREAS the RHA Sustainability Committee (SCOMM) is fulfilling its main objectives of discussing pertinent sustainability issues and advocating for sustainable alternatives in all aspects of on-campus living, and

WHEREAS SCOMM and the larger RHA body should take a proactive stance on issues regarding sustainability, as they impact our constituents in the on-campus community, and

WHEREAS a non-reusable water bottle is a water bottle produced for the containment of water manufactured for short-term use, and

WHEREAS the production, distribution, and use of non-reusable plastic water bottles provide unnecessary waste and carbon emissions that are unsustainable, and

WHEREAS eliminating non-reusable water bottles from all RHA meetings and events will encourage RHA members and on-campus residents to evaluate their impact on the environment, and

WHEREAS the Student Government Association (SGA) put forth legislation last year pertaining to this issue and has encouraged other departments and organizations affiliated with the University of Maryland to join the SGA in eliminating non-reusable plastic water bottles from their meetings and events,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that RHA members will discontinue the use of non-reusable plastic water bottles at any RHA meetings or events, including but not limited to those of the Senate, Executive Board, Committee, Hall/Area Council, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of RHA shall promote awareness of this policy and encourage fellow RHA members to carry out the resolution by being attentive to the policy and informing others through verbal reminders, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it shall be the duty of the Executive Board to inform new RHA members of the policy at the start of every semester, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that RHA members promote sustainability through the use of reusable water bottles.

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