
¹ [The Ohio State University - Statistical Summary \(Autumn 2017\)](#)

² [Investment, 590 University Policy](#)

³ State ex rel. Besser v. Ohio State Univ., 87 Ohio St.3d 535 ("Besser I") and 89 Ohio St.3d 396 ("Besser II")

⁴ [A Resolution to Support Increased Transparency of Investments at The Ohio State University](#)

37 **Whereas** students are still concerned that OSU may be invested in the following
38 companies: the GEO group, CCA/CoreCivic, HP Enterprise, and
39

40 **Whereas** the aforementioned companies contradict the University's values of integrity
41 and accountability by engaging in practices that violate human rights both domestically
42 and internationally,⁵ and

43 **Whereas** the United Nations defines "Human Rights" as "the right to life and liberty,
44 freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work
45 and education, and many more,"⁶ and

46 **Whereas** these rights are to be afforded to all human beings regardless of race, religion,
47 ethnicity, or sex,⁷ and

48 **Whereas** Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) / CoreCivic and GEO Group profit
49 from the growth private prisons and mass incarcerations in the United States, and
50

51 **Whereas** the prison industrial complex benefits at the expense of black and brown lives
52 with an average of 1 in 3 black men and 1 in 6 Latino men spending time behind bars
53 during their life compared to 1 in 17 white men and black men spending an average of 29
54 percent longer behind bars than their white peers for the same crimes,⁸ and

55 **Whereas** the number of women in prison has grown by over 800% in the past three
56 decades and two-thirds of incarcerated women in the U.S. are women of color,⁹ and
57

58 **Whereas** mass incarceration and the Prison Industrial Complex are entities that thrive on
59 and perpetuate racism and injustice,¹⁰ and

60 **Whereas** persistent violations of detention standards in private prisons,¹¹ including
61 abuses against women, children,¹² and inmates with mental disabilities,¹³ have been
62 documented by Human Rights Watch and other organizations, and
63

⁵ [OSU Mission, Values, and Core Goals](#)

⁶ [UN- Human Rights](#)

⁷ [Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity & Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy 1.10](#)

⁸ [Why For-Profit Prisons House More Inmates Of Color](#)

⁹ [Focus Brief: Women in Prison](#)

¹⁰ [Racism and Reflections On Prison Industrial Complex](#)

¹¹ [US Justice Department Ends Use of Private Prisons](#)

¹² [The Shame of America's Family Detention Camps](#)

¹³ [Use of Force against Inmates with Mental Disabilities in US Jails and Prisons](#)

69 **Whereas** unsafe and unsanitary conditions, including lack of immediate access to
70 running water for hydration, showers or the use of a toilet, were documented at one of
71 CCA's privately-run prisons in Ohio,¹⁴ and

72
73 **Whereas** CCA / CoreCivic and GEO Group have emerged as the main corporate
74 beneficiaries of immigrant detention policies and operate nine out of ten of the largest
75 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers,¹⁵ and

76
77 **Whereas** HP Enterprise also profits from global mass incarceration by providing the
78 essential infrastructure for state and private prisons as well as the technology to track
79 prisoner data which is used to discriminate against formerly incarcerated persons years
80 after their release,¹⁶ and

81
82 **Whereas** HP Enterprise profits from mass deportation by providing technology for ICE
83 to track, raid, detain, and deport undocumented immigrants, including students,
84 separating them from their livelihoods and families,¹⁷ and

85
86 **Whereas** companies profiting from devastation are complicit in the perpetration of
87 human suffering, and

88
89 **Whereas** investment in such companies engaged in violence against others is harmful to
90 the OSU community, particularly minority students who come from, or have family in
91 regions which have experienced military occupation, systematic discrimination, death,
92 injury, and other forms of human rights violations, and

93
94 **Whereas** the core goals of President Drake's 2020 Vision is for Ohio State to "be a
95 national model of inclusiveness and diversity" and to be a "leading light along the arc
96 toward greater inclusion,"¹⁸ and

97
98 **Whereas** the Undergraduate Student Government continually expresses its commitment
99 to "support, protect, and advocate for the safety and success of all students, with a strong
100 emphasis on marginalized groups,"¹⁹ and

101
102 **Whereas** as long as a portion of the University's endowment fund is invested in
103 companies that violate human rights, Arab, Black and Latino students, as minority groups

¹⁴ [Auditors uncover problems at private prisons in Ohio](#)

¹⁵ [Payoff: How Congress Ensures Private Prison Profit with an Immigrant Detention Quota](#)

¹⁶ [Hewlett Packard Enterprise](#)

¹⁷ [Hewlett-Packard's Role in Oppression, from South Africa to Palestine to Massachusetts](#)

¹⁸ [2020 Vision](#)

¹⁹ [Diversity & Inclusion Role and Mission](#)

104 on campus do not receive the University's full support, nor the benefits of its
105 commitment to foster a more inclusive campus, and

106
107 **Whereas** the sponsors of this resolution are committed to promoting dignity and respect
108 for all people, and emphasize that the request contained herein is not an attack on any
109 particular identity or a sweeping criticism of any nation but rather is meant as an
110 acknowledgement of concerns marginalized students on campus have regarding
111 university investments in unethical corporate practices abroad, and

112
113 **Whereas** undergraduate student governments all across the nation, including but not
114 limited to, Columbia University,²⁰ Hampshire College,²¹ University of California-Davis,
115 University of California-Berkeley, University of California-Los Angeles, University of
116 California-San Diego, University of California-Santa Cruz, University of California-
117 Irvine, University of California-Riverside,²² Stanford University,²³ DePaul University,²⁴
118 Oberlin College,²⁵ University of Toledo²⁶ and Northwestern University²⁷ — have passed
119 resolutions calling for the divestment from companies engaged in human rights
120 violations, and

121
122 **Whereas** fellow Big Ten school University of Michigan recently passed a similar
123 resolution calling to establish an ad hoc committee to investigate divestment from
124 companies that are complicit in human rights violations,²⁸ and

125
126 **Whereas** OSU students have previously sought to promote the withdrawal of University
127 funds from corporations engaged in unethical business practices which demonstrate a
128 lack of accountability, ethicality, and respect for the rights and dignity of others, most
129 notably from companies doing business with apartheid South Africa²⁹ and Sudan,³⁰ and

130
131 **Whereas** the Undergraduate Student Government has set a precedent for pursuing
132 socially responsible investments with the passage of resolution 50-R-24 to divest from
133 the top 200 Fossil Fuel Companies and Energy Transfer Partners;³¹

²⁰ [Columbia University Divests From Prisons](#)

²¹ [Hampshire Amends Investment Policy, Excluding Private Prison Industry](#)

²² [ASUCD Divestment Bill Passes through Senate](#)

²³ [Senate Reverses Divestment Vote, Passes Resolution](#)

²⁴ [DePaul Students Vote for Divestment](#)

²⁵ [Oberlin College Passes Divestment Resolution](#)

²⁶ [University of Toledo Passes Divestment Resolution By A Landslide](#)

²⁷ [Northwestern University Passes Divestment](#)

²⁸ [UMDivest resolution passes for first time in U-M Ann Arbor campus history](#)

²⁹ [Colleges Moving to Divest South African Investments](#)

³⁰ [Cutting Ties With Darfur](#)

³¹ [A Resolution to Remove Investments from Top 200 Fossil Fuel Corporations, Energy Transfer Partners, and Duke Energy](#)

134
135 **Therefore, Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government calls for the
136 formation of an ad hoc committee, consisting of faculty, students and staff within the
137 University Senate, to investigate the ethical and moral implications of investments
138 including the aforementioned companies which are involved in human rights violations
139 both within the U.S. and abroad, and
140
141 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports
142 appropriate action as deemed fit by the established committee, if deemed appropriate by
143 the ad hoc committee following a thorough investigation, from the aforementioned
144 companies and including any other companies involved in human rights violations, as
145 soon as divestment may be accomplished, but not later than one year after the date of
146 engagement, and
147
148 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the ad hoc committee, in conjunction with divestment
149 find suitable investments in companies deemed socially responsible by said committee,
150 and
151
152 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that upon of this resolution, the request presented herein
153 shall embody OSU's commitment to social justice and equality for all people, and affirms
154 that no people are exempt from this commitment.

Floor Vote: Passed

Andrew Jackson

Andrew Jackson

President

Sophie Chang
Sophie Chang
Vice President

Sophie Chang
Vice President

173 Date Adopted: January 24, 2018

Date Terminated: _____