



## **Undergraduate Student Government-Kent Campus**

**Sponsor:** Senator Beeler

**Co-Sponsor:** Senator Stopar, Director Scozzaro, Senator Weihe, Senator Dawson

### **Resolution of Support for the Implementation of a Food Waste Mitigation Program**

**Whereas**, the Dining Services of Kent State University has created new meal plans primarily using buffet style dining instead of declining balance; and

**Whereas**, dining systems like these at have an immense amount of food waste that is being disposed of in the trash; and

**Whereas**, a solution to reduce the amount of food related waste would be to start a composting or similar food waste reduction program; and

**Whereas**, composting is beneficial because it reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers the carbon footprint<sup>1</sup>; and

**Whereas**, many other collegiate institutions already have composting programs in place like University of California: Davis which composts 98% of its organic waste<sup>3</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the Office of Sustainability works to increase sustainability in university operations as well as collaborating with faculty to incorporate sustainability across the curriculum<sup>2</sup>; and

**Whereas**, Kent State University needs to set the example of what effective environmental stewardship looks for its students and other collegiate institutions; and

**Therefore, let it be resolved by the Undergraduate Student Government, Kent Campus, acting in full session, that Undergraduate Student Government:**

1. Expresses its support and is encouraging the implementation of a composting program in conjunction with local organizations like 4H.
2. Recommends seeking grant funding for an on campus facility.
3. Requests that a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Beverly Warren, President of Kent State University, Melanie Knowles, Sustainability Manager of Kent State University, Kristeena Blaser, Sustainability Coordinator of Aramark.

## References:

- 1: "Composting At Home." EPA. August 02, 2018. Accessed October 05, 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home>.
- 2: "About Us." Kent State University. Accessed October 05, 2018.  
<https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/about-us>.
- 3: "Waste." UC Davis: Dining. Accessed October 05, 2018.  
[http://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/progress/waste\\_reduction/index.html](http://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/progress/waste_reduction/index.html).