

# **THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON**

## **RESOLUTION 6-8-25**

Adopting a Statement of Commitment as Required by  
the Advance Ohio Higher Education Act, Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216

WHEREAS, On March 28, 2025, Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), also known as the “Advance Ohio Higher Education Act”; and

WHEREAS, The Advance Ohio Higher Education Act goes into effect on June 27, 2025; and

WHEREAS, The Advance Ohio Higher Education Act enacts new sections of the Ohio Revised Code, including Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216 requires state institutions of higher education, including The University of Akron, to adopt a statement of commitment; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216 requires the University’s statement of commitment to incorporate specific statements; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the University of Akron’s Board of Trustees hereby adopts a statement of commitment as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the University’s statement of commitment supersedes any prior statements by The University of Akron’s Board of Trustees regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That The University of Akron’s Board of Trustees incorporates the following statements into a statement of commitment as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0216:

- (1) The University of Akron declares that it will educate students by means of free, open, and rigorous intellectual inquiry to seek the truth. .
- (2) The University of Akron declares that its duty is to equip students with the opportunity to develop the intellectual skills they need to reach their own, informed conclusions.
- (3) The University of Akron declares its commitment to not requiring, favoring, disfavoring, or prohibiting speech or lawful assembly.
- (4) The University of Akron declares it is committed to create a community dedicated to an ethic of civil and free inquiry, which respects the autonomy

of each member, supports individual capacities for growth, and tolerates the differences in opinion that naturally occur in a public higher education community.

- (5) The University of Akron declares that its duty is to treat all faculty, staff, and students as individuals, to hold them to equal standards, and to provide them equality of opportunity, with regard to those individuals' race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the President or the President's designee is authorized and directed to ensure that the University's Statement of Commitment is prominently posted on the University's website and alongside the University's mission statement in any place in which the mission statement appears, including when it is published or posted, as well as in any solicitations and offers of admission to students and any offers of employment to faculty.

  
Mark G. Stasitis, Acting Secretary  
Board of Trustees

