



Coalition of Student Leaders  
University of Alaska

RESOLUTION #2025-01:  
Coalition Stance on Board of Regents DEI Statement

---

- WHEREAS: The Board of Regents has ordered the University to remove all language involving the words "diversity," "equity," and "inclusion," effective Friday, February 28th; and,
- WHEREAS: The U.S. Constitution's First Amendment allows individuals to speak freely, especially within public institutions like our universities. Hence, the Board of Regents' recent immediate action violates this right; and,
- WHEREAS: The Board of Regents policy P04.04.010 (Academic Freedom) states: "Nothing contained in Regents' policy or university regulation will be construed to limit or abridge any person's right to free speech or to infringe the academic freedom of any member of the university community,"; and,
- WHEREAS: The Constitution of the State of Alaska States that "Every person may freely speak, write, and publish on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right," and,
- WHEREAS: Alaskan Native communities have a right to equitable opportunity for scholarships, cultural centers, and support services and are put at risk by banning the usage of the words diversity, equity, and inclusion; and,
- WHEREAS:** UA campuses have services like multicultural lounges, pride centers, Native courses, and clubs based on diversity to express their identity and inclusion, with all currently being inclusive and welcoming to all people; and,
- WHEREAS: Banning such words puts equitable scholarships based on race, gender, and culture at risk. These scholarships help those in need not due to their identity but to uphold equal opportunity standards; and,
- WHEREAS: Eliminating sources of inclusion can impact a student's mental health, where many students in the state of Alaska already experience dire mental

health struggles; and,

WHEREAS: Values of diversity, equity, and inclusion are part of the Alaskan experience and keep the state, and by extension, the University, going; and,

WHEREAS:

Statement of Purpose: The Coalition of Student Leaders hereby pledges its commitment to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion and disapproves of the Board of Regents' hasty, unconstitutional action before this order is challenged in court through due process.

Fiscal Impact: The Board of Regents' hasty decision has unknown fiscal impact, but it is the position of the Coalition that this action allows the possibility for minorities to be excluded from equitable enrollment, which would directly harm the University and its finances.

---