

Resolution 017
A Resolution to Allow the Class of 2023 More Freedom in Housing
Sponsored by: Senator Schlee
Co-Sponsored by: Senator Decker, Senator Besendorfer, Senator Buckley,
and Senator Harrison

Whereas,

The Class of 2023 signed a contract with The Catholic University of America's housing services agreeing that they would live in on campus residence halls for their freshman, sophomore, and junior years.

Whereas,

The Class of 2023 entered this contract with the impression that there would be a newly built residence hall by the year 2021, where the Class of 2023 would be able to live in the following year.

Whereas,

The Covid-19 pandemic and following University closures have had a substantially negative impact on the entire University population, including the Class of 2023.

Whereas,

The circumstances in which the members of the Class of 2023 signed their housing contract are vastly different than the situation students find themselves in today.

Whereas,

Many members of the Class of 2023 planned on living in the Opus Residence Hall, a traditionally Sophomore residence hall with apartment/suite style living, but were unable to due to the circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Whereas,

Due to the decision by the University to only allow Freshmen on campus this Fall, an unusually large number of students in their sophomore year signed leases to live in off-campus housing in order to ensure that they could remain close to the school community, internships, and job opportunities.

Whereas,

The University has already released the Class of 2023 from their housing contract for this current school year.

Whereas,

Members of administration have previously said the University would allow the Class of 2023 to be released from their housing contracts during their junior year, informing many student's decisions to start leases with off-campus housing this semester.

Whereas,

An announcement was made that the Class of 2023 would be required to live on campus if they did not complete an exemption form which only allowed students to live off campus if they were married, have a

disability, have a medical need, are experiencing financial hardship, or signed a lease before February 22nd, 2021.¹

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests

1. Housing Services consider all on campus housing exemption requests from the Class of 2023 for the 2021-2022 academic school year with significant leniency and flexibility.
2. Housing Services accept requests for housing exemption from members of the Class of 2023 who sign leases past the date of February 22nd, 2021, but before the date of April 15th, 2021.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

Gerald Sharpe
President of the Student Government Association

Gemma del Carmen
Vice President of the Student Government Association

¹ <https://housing.catholic.edu/on-campus/forms/residency-exemption-request.html>