First Reading: March 30, 2021

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Resolution 6-21-S. Resolution to ask Western Kentucky University to create a “Vet Our Vendors” University Committee.**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to

support the formation of a Vet Our Vendors Committee.

WHEREAS: On March 16th, 2021, President Timothy Caboni announced during a press conference the list of food venues in the new WKU Commons at Helm Library, one of which was Lost River Pizza Company.

WHEREAS: On March 18th, 2021, a screenshot of a social media post made by Lost River Pizza Company owner Keith Coffman on March 19th, 2014, was shared showing Coffman in blackface.

WHEREAS: Coffman confirms his actions in a joking manner in the comments of the post, stating he was dressed as “Ce Lo Coffman,” referencing the Black artist CeeLo Green.

WHEREAS: Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines blackface as, “dark makeup worn to mimic the appearance of a Black person and especially to mock or ridicule Black people.”

WHEREAS: On March 18th, 2021, the Western Kentucky University Restaurant Group announced via social media, “We have learned that the local brand, Lost River Pizza Company, has some background that is inconsistent with our values. As a result, the WKU Restaurant Group has decided that the brand would not be a good fit within our restaurant portfolio. We are working to add another brand to the program and look forward to making that announcement soon.”

WHEREAS: Even though Western Kentucky University made the right decision in this case, the lack of prior vetting of this vendor shows a disregard for the Black and Brown members of the Hilltopper family.

WHEREAS: A committee designated to vetting each present or future vendor on Western Kentucky University’s campus would ensure a better, more inclusive campus for all students, faculty, and staff.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University support the formation of a “Vet Our Vendors” University Committee.

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SPONSORS:

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2. SGA Academic and Student Affairs Committee [tess.welch788@topper.wku.edu]
3. SGA Public Relations Committee [destinee.daugherty368@topper.wku.edu]

CONTACTS:

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