

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

May 24, 2018

WHEREAS, federal law requires the University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions to protect the privacy of student education records when addressing student complaints involving sexual misconduct and other matters; and

WHEREAS, several media outlets have filed suit against officials at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ("UNC-Chapel Hill") seeking access to more than 10 years of confidential student education records relating to the resolution by the UNC Honor Court, the Committee on Student Conduct, or the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office of matters involving sexual misconduct; and

WHEREAS, UNC-Chapel Hill properly declined to produce confidential education records; and

WHEREAS, disclosure of this confidential information is likely to deter victims from reporting sexual assaults, impair the University's ability to effectively address sexual assaults, and harm the privacy interests that every student has in ensuring that their education records remain confidential; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Folt has petitioned the North Carolina Supreme Court to review whether UNC-Chapel Hill has the discretion to withhold this information;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina supports the Chancellor and the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees in the decision to file the petition for discretionary review and in the positions asserted in that petition, including that the University has the responsibility to exercise its discretion to protect the information requested by these media outlets from public disclosure, in an effort to protect the identities of survivors and other parties who put their trust in the University's Title IX process and their rights under federal privacy law.

Adopted this 24th day of May, 2018.

W. Louis Bissette, Jr., Chairman

Secretary