

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



BILL NO. 61-46

INTRODUCED BY: A. Pham (APASO) SECONDED BY: Higgins (Alliance)

CONTRIBUTORS: C. Le (President), K. Harding (VPIA), L. Wenkel (VPGA), A. Amir (VPAA), S. Challa (Director of HSW), K. Chhabra (W*Co), D. Jones (VPFO)

A RESOLUTION TO: Advocate Further for Michigan State University to Collect and Publish Disaggregated Data on the Student Body, as well as Faculty and Staff, with Respect to Sexual Orientation

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, Extending from Bill 61-45¹, in which ASMSU will be advocating for the collection and publication of disaggregated data with respect to race, ethnicity, and gender identities, this bill further advocates for the collection and publication of disaggregated data with respect to sexual orientation; and,

WHEREAS, Sexual orientation is about a person's emotional, romantic, or sexual attraction to others. It is independent of gender identity—where gender identity is about who you are—and can be heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, queer, or asexual²; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan State University does not report nor collect data on sexual orientation; and,

WHEREAS, It would be beneficial to disaggregate data on sexual orientation as it would allow MSU to analyze trends and disparities within each group respectively, provide resources that would aid in student and employee success, and target programs that would address the unique needs of different sexual minorities, leading to more effective interventions and improved outcomes; and,

¹ [61-45_Advocate Further for Disaggregated Data on Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Identities_A. Pha...](#)

² [What's the difference between gender and sexuality?](#)

WHEREAS, By breaking down data based on sexual orientation, challenges faced by the LGBTQIA+ community can be identified—challenges such as differences in healthcare access, mental health outcomes, and experiences of discrimination. These issues may not be apparent when data is aggregated, and disaggregated data can help to challenge stereotypes and promote understanding, potentially reducing stigma and discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, A climate study to gather information about the population of students who identify within these sexual orientations and gender identity categories was conducted in 2023. However, as of November 2023, no report or data have been released. To this day, GSCC is still inquiring about the data, so that the office may be informed about the student population and students’ needs; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan State University may break down the data collection by different categories of sexual orientation, such as heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, queer, asexual, questioning, and more³; and,

WHEREAS, MSU should also provide an option for individuals who are not comfortable disclosing their sexual orientation to protect their privacy—such as including a “prefer not to say” option; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall advocate for the implementation of the collection and publication of disaggregated data based on sexual orientation on the diversity of the student body, as well as faculty and staff, at Michigan State University within the bounds of individual privacy; and let it be further,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall advocate for the analyzation of sexual orientation data alongside other demographic factors like race, ethnicity, gender identities, age, and socioeconomic status to identify potential intersectional disparities; and let it be further,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall advocate for Michigan State University to annually release a DEI report with the disaggregated data based on sexual orientation; and so let it be,

³ [Learn how bias and inclusion impact: various sexual orientations](#)

RESOLVED, That Michigan State University consult with LGBTQIA+ communities, expanded support services—such as MSU Safe Place, the Center for Survivors, the Gender and Sexuality Campus Center (GSCC), Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS), RVSM Expert Workgroup—and student organizations when designing data collection methods to ensure inclusivity and sensitivity.

INTRODUCED ON 12.05.2024

REFERRED TO Academic **COMMITTEE ON** 11.21.2024

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN Added to GA Agenda **DATE** 11.21.2024

COMMITTEE ACTION Quorum Not Reached 11.21.2024
PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN X Voice Majority 12.05.2024
PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE

C. Le Kathryn E. Harding
PRESIDENT: Connor Le **VPIA: Kathryn Harding**