



# Resolution 32: Amending the Student Assembly Charter in Allyship with HAVEN

**Abstract:** This resolution amends the Student Assembly Charter to include additional roles of the LGBTQIA+ Liaison and exempts HAVEN from disclosing a full list of member names in order to submit a valid Byline application.

**Sponsored by:** Karys Everett '25, Nic Oke '26, Piper Kohlenberger '25

**Reviewed by:** DEI Committee, 11/10/2023 6-0-0

**Type of Action:** Internal Policy

**Originally Presented:** 10/26/2023

**Current Status:** Old Business

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**Whereas,** Per the current Charter regulations on Byline applications, all orgs applying for SAF funding must submit a list of all current members. This rule, though facially neutral, has harmful unintended consequences which impact the LGBTQ+ community at Cornell.

**Whereas,** In the Student Assembly Charter there is no mention of the LGBTQIA+ Liaison. The unutilized capacity of this role is harmful to the community it is seated to serve, and this resolution seeks to rectify that.

**Whereas,** according to the "SAF Application Requirement" HAVEN is classified as a Supplementary Funding Board and is required to complete Sections 6-14. This classification requires Haven to provide the names of all current members.

**Whereas,** HAVEN is unable to effectively protect and empower its community members if this information is compromised. Per current regulations, HAVEN lacks the autonomy to dictate where the information goes, as well as who is receiving this sensitive information.

**Whereas,** it is the duty of the LGBTQIA+ Liaison to ensure the protection, support, and collaboration of the and with the Queer organizations and students on campus. Furthermore, it is up to the students to decide when, how, and with whom they decide to share their identities; HAVEN nor the Liaison can take away their autonomy and freedom of choice by disclosing that information on their behalf. Doing so would go against the very nature of what the position represents and what HAVEN stands for. The Cornell Student Assembly recognizes the threat to safety and autonomy of the members, and will alternatively submit data on the quantity of current members in the organization.



Cornell University  
Student Assembly

31 **Whereas**, Students put their trust and voice into the LGBTQIA+ Liaison, and with this trust, the  
32 Liaison is then endowed with the responsibility of advocating, fighting, and ensuring the safety  
33 for and on behalf of students at Cornell. The immediate impacts of violating this trust by  
34 showing other individuals sensitive information is far reaching; Queer students would no longer  
35 view HAVEN as a safe community to be a part of and would see the position they elect as one to  
36 be mistrusted. The Cornell LGBTQ+ Community at-large would be left without the support,  
37 connection, and advocacy that HAVEN traditionally provides as well as the duty of the Liaison  
38 to protect them on a legislative level.

39 **Be it therefore resolved**, the following text shall be inserted as Appendix A, Section 4,  
40 Subsection A.vi. of the Student Assembly Charter:

41 "The LGBTQIA+ Liaison shall be required to verify the validity of the number and  
42 names of all members currently a part of HAVEN: The LGBTQ+ Student Union. Should  
43 the seat be vacant, Haven shall be exempt from sharing this information, and shall be  
44 required to submit data on the number of current members in the organization, as well as  
45 the number of student attendees at HAVEN-hosted events to demonstrate the  
46 organization's impact, utility, and student engagement at Cornell."

47 **Be it further resolved**, Haven, regardless of the LGBTQIA+ Liaison position being filled, will  
48 provide photographic evidence with a quantitative record of the total number of current  
49 members.

50 **Be it further resolved**, That HAVEN understands and agrees with the SAF mission to ensure  
51 equal treatment for any byline applicant regardless of mission. However, HAVEN is a unique  
52 circumstance in which the basis for students membership is rooted in an identity that is not, and  
53 could not be known, without the student sharing as such, should exempt HAVEN from having to  
54 share that information on their behalf.

55 **Be it finally resolved**, this resolution shall take effect when (1) agreed to by the President and 56  
56 (2) the Fall 2023 academic semester has concluded.

57 **Respectfully Submitted,**

58 Karys Everett '25

59 *LGBTQIA+ Liaison at Large*, Student Assembly

60 Nic Oke '26

61 *Co-President*, Haven: LGBTQ+ Student Union

62 Piper Kohlenberger '25

63 *Co-President*, Haven: LGBTQ+ Student Union