Dear Todd Selig & Jay Gooze,

The Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire recently passed a resolution requesting “that the Town of Durham amend the land use for the Professional Office Zone from Fraternity/Sorority House Conditional Use as an Adaptive reuse (CUA) to Fraternity/Sorority House Permitted.” The Student Senate believes that because there is currently no available housing for fraternities or sororities and there are abutting properties in the Professional Office Zone that have a history of being fraternity/sorority houses and fraternities and sororities are “managed by a series of national, alumni, and undergraduate regulations, as opposed to an apartment complex,” the town of Durham should take this step.

Respectfully,
Gabriel Hoffman
Speaker of the University of New Hampshire Student Senate
Student Senate Resolution – 6 Fraternity and Sorority Housing

Introduced by: Greek Affairs Liaison, Allison Onofrio, Student Body President, Cameron Cook
Date: October 25th, 2015

Whereas, University of New Hampshire (UNH) Fraternity and Sorority Life has experienced major growth since 2009, Fraternity Life has doubled in size and Sorority Life has tripled in size¹, and

Whereas, this growth is represented by the addition of two new Fraternity/Sorority organization for the fall of 2016, and

Whereas, ten of UNH’s eighteen currently recognized Fraternity and Sorority Organizations have re-colonized or colonized since 2007², and

Whereas, eleven of UNH’s eighteen currently recognized Fraternity/Sorority Organizations have no chapter house¹, and

Whereas, roughly eleven percent of the UNH Undergraduate Student Body was a member of a recognized UNH Fraternity or Sorority in the 2014-2015 Academic Year³, and

Whereas, UNH recognized Fraternities and Sororities raised and contributed $95,000 to charities in the spring of 2015⁴, and

Whereas, all current property in Durham with the Fraternity/Sorority code use are currently occupied, leaving zero available property for non-housed chapters², and

Whereas, a Fraternity/Sorority property is organized and managed by a series of national, alumni, and undergraduate regulations, as opposed to an apartment complex, and

Whereas, several properties in Durham, abutting current Fraternity/Sorority houses in the Professional Office Zone, have a property history of being Fraternity/Sorority houses³, and

¹ Office of UNH Greek Life - http://www.unhmub.com/involvement-leadership/greek-life
Whereas, to operate a new Fraternity/Sorority House in the Professional Office Zone requires a Conditional Use Permit that are allowed only as an adaptive reuse of an existing building, and

4 (Pulled from THE DURHAM ZONING ORDINANCE)

Zoning Definitions

FRATERNITY/SORORITY – A fraternal organization officially recognized by the University of New Hampshire, and organized to benefit the Durham/University of New Hampshire community through the efforts of its members, who are students currently enrolled at the University of New Hampshire.

FRATERNITY/SORORITY HOUSE – A building used to provide lodging facilities for the exclusive use of the bonafide members of a fraternity or sorority.

TABLE OF LAND USES

The following Table of Uses identifies allowed uses of land, buildings, or structures in all zoning districts. There is a definition in 175-7 for each of the uses listed in the table. Permitted Uses are indicated by a “P” in the appropriate column. Uses permitted only with the issuance of a Conditional Use permit are indicated by a “CU”. Uses not permitted in that district are marked with an “X”. Uses indicated with a CUA are Conditional Uses that are allowed only as an adaptive reuse of an existing building. Any use that is not listed as a Permitted Use or a Conditional Use is prohibited in the district.
Whereas, the definition of a Fraternity/Sorority that is allowed to occupy a Fraternity/Sorority House under current Durham Zoning Laws must have recognition by the University of New Hampshire, and

Whereas, many of the suitable and potential Fraternity/Sorority Houses are owned by landlords, requiring many steps on behalf of the Fraternity/Sorority to receive a Conditional Use Permit, therefore

Be it resolved by the Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire that the Town of Durham amend the land use for the Professional Office zone from Fraternity/Sorority House Conditional Use as an Adaptive reuse (CUA) to Fraternity/Sorority House Permitted.

Senate Action: Passes with two abstentions
Speaker Verification: Gabriel Hoffman

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY OF USES</th>
<th>Central Business</th>
<th>Professional Office</th>
<th>Church Hill</th>
<th>Courthouse</th>
<th>Coe’s Corner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraternity/sorority house</td>
<td>CU</td>
<td>CUA</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can find the full zoning ordinance here: [http://www.ci.durham.nh.us/zoning/articles](http://www.ci.durham.nh.us/zoning/articles)