

**The Student Senate
71st Session
Texas A&M University**

Introduced By: Zach Huebschman, Off-Campus Caucus
Ashali Chimata, Student Services Chair
Joel Salazar, College of Geosciences

Sponsored By: Adel Quntar, Diversity and Inclusion Chair
Jerry Ramirez, Off-Campus Caucus
Jenna Carter, Off-Campus Caucus
Perla Lopez, College of Liberal Arts
Nick Shafer, College of Science
Gabriel Nambila, Off-Campus Caucus
Kaylyn Roberts, College of Liberal Arts Caucus

Action Taken _____

Certified By: _____

Mitch Parker
Speaker of the Senate

**The Support for the LGBT Community and the GLBT Resource Center at Texas A&M
Resolution**

“A resolution expressing support for and recognizing the LGBT community, the GLBT resource center, and the students, faculty, and staff who continue to lead the university toward inclusion.”

Whereas(1): Throughout the history of Texas A&M, LGBT students have struggled to establish a community free from discrimination and continue to face discrimination which isolates them from the Aggie family; and,

Whereas(2): The inspiring, yet unrecognized, leadership and selflessness of many Aggies led to the development of policies to push Texas A&M to be more inclusive for LGBT students; and,

Whereas(3): The Texas A&M University Student Senate has never passed any legislation to support the LGBT community; and,

Whereas(4): During the 65th session of the Student Senate, this body passed a resolution allowing students to opt-out of two dollars from their student fees going to the

GLBT Resource Center by citing religious objections, several campus organizations are still pushing for this policy; and,

Whereas(5): *Gay Student Services vs. Texas A&M University* is a court case that nearly made its way to the United States Supreme Court in 1984 because the university administration cited that homosexuality was illegal in Texas, making a gay support group illegal on campus; and,

Whereas(6): Texas A&M was ranked in the top twenty Unfriendly Schools for LGBT students in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2014 by the Princeton Review; and,

Whereas(7): Texas A&M University has implemented the Civil Rights and Compliance Policy (Revised 2015, Sec. 8.01 of TAMU System Policies and Regulations), which states that “The system will provide equal opportunity for employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity” and “No individual will, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefit of or be subjected to discrimination under any system program or activity.”

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(1): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to recognize former Aggies, Michael Minton, Michael Garrett, and Sherri Skinner, for establishing the first gay support group on campus despite threats of violence; and,

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(2): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to commend past TAMU Student Body President John Claybrook for vetoing S.B. 65-70, which attempted to allow religious exemptions for student fees going toward the GLBT resource center; and,

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(3): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to recognize all of the Aggies who helped establish an anti-discrimination policy in 2000 that included sexual orientation; and,

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(4): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to recognize Texas A&M University for sponsoring, for the first time, an appearance at the 2017 Houston Pride Parade; and,

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(5): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to ensure that an inclusive and welcoming environment is provided for all students, including LGBTQ+ Students.

Let it be

Further

Resolved(6): A copy of this resolution be sent to:
Michael K. Young, President, Texas A&M University,
Dr. Daniel Pugh, Texas A&M Vice President of Student Affairs,
Dr. Means-Coleman, Texas A&M Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion,
Dr. Jennifer Reyes, Texas A&M Director for Assessment and Diversity,
Chad Mandala, Program Coordinator for the GLBT Resource Center,
The Battalion