

Memorandum

December 18, 2020

To: Dr. Mary Ellen Cavitt, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs  
Via: Dr. Vincent E. Morton, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students  
From: Kathryn A. Weiser, Assistant Dean of Students *KaW*  
Subject: Student Government Senate Resolution Legislation 2020-2021

Ten pieces of passed 2020-2021 Senate Resolutions from Student Government are attached and listed below.

**S.R.2020-2021.10 Resolution in Support for The Texas State Employees Union's Petition**

This legislation intends to call for Texas State to accept the demands of the TSEU (CWA Local 6186) in full to ensure that Texas State adequately

**S.R.2020-2021.11 Resolution Calling for The Texas State University President to Formally Request That the San Marcos District Attorney Drop All Charges Placed Against the Student Protestors Arrested in May 2018 and 2019**

This legislation calls for University President Trauth, and all other relevant University administrators, to make a public and formal request for the San Marcos District Attorney to drop all outstanding charges placed against the students and release a public apology for the actions of the University in those instances, in an effort allow healing to take place on campus. Please note that the Student Body President did not veto this legislation, but indicated disagreement with it in his cover memo for the piece of legislation.

**S.R.2020-2021.12 Resolution Calling for the Establishment of a Cultural Activities Fee**

This legislation intends to recommend that the University implement a \$5.00 Cultural Activity fee for students enrolled for courses at the San Marcos campus and that students may attend productions and events relating to the fine arts free of charge, and the fee will be overseen by a committee of students and faculty. Please note that the Student Body President did not veto this legislation, but indicated disagreement with it in his cover memo for the piece of legislation.

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

601 University Drive | LBJ Student Center, Suite 5-9.1 | San Marcos, Texas 78666-4684

*phone:* 512.245.2124 | *fax:* 512.245.8268 | [DOS.TXSTATE.EDU](mailto:DOS.TXSTATE.EDU)

*This letter is an electronic communication from Texas State University.*

**S.R.2020-2021.13 Resolution Calling for the Theatre Department to Adjust its Curriculum to Better Accommodate Students**

This legislation intends to call for the Theatre Department to adjust courses TH4390 through TH4393 to be less strenuous for students.

**S.R.2020-2021.16 Resolution Calling for the Installation of Artistic Murals**

This legislation intends to recommend the university to commission more artistic work on campus and to commission students to do the artwork.

**S.R.2020-2021.17 Resolution Calling for Updated Calorie and Diet Specific Information in Dining Halls**

This legislation intends to recommend Chartwells provides more updated dietary information to be posted in dining halls.

**S.R.2020-2021.18 Resolution Calling for the Creation of Cultural Diversity Flagged Course in Required Curriculum**

This legislation intends to recommend the University to flag specific types of cultural diversity courses in the student enrollment system and require two flagged courses for graduation.

**S.R.2020-2021.19 Resolution to Leverage Bobcat Trace to Further Mental Health Outreach from the University**

This legislation intends to recommend the University reformat Bobcat Trace to be used as a way for students to assess their mental health state, and potentially get on track to receiving aid streamlining the scheduling process.

**S.R.2020-2021.20 Resolution Calling on Free Masks in Major Student Service Buildings**

This legislation intends to recommend free masks at entrances of student service buildings such as Alkek, LBJSC, and the Student Recreation Center.

**S.R.2020-2021.21 Resolution to Encourage Fee Transparency When Registering for Classes, Through an Online Code Pledge**

This legislation intends to have a pledge that will be sent out to professors so they can choose to sign it or not, in an effort to be more transparent about course fees.



Memorandum

To: Dr. Vincent Morton Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students  
Kathryn A. Weiser, Assistant Dean of Students

Date: December 17, 2020

From: Catching Valentinis-Dee, Student Body President

Subject: Student Government Passed Legislation: Senate Resolutions

With the intention of honoring the senate's role as a representative body, no resolution passed by the senate during the year 2020 was vetoed. However, I hold my strongest reservations about two particular pieces. I request that my reservations be attached to these selected pieces.

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.11 Resolution Calling for The Texas State University President to Formally Request That the San Marcos District Attorney Drop All Charges Placed Against the Student Protestors Arrested in May 2018 and 2019

Number of Vote: 19 voted in favor, 11 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

**Acceptance of this legislation by the TXST Administration would be a direct incentivization of unlawful action and disobedience by students. Secondly, the content of this legislation was misrepresented before the senate by its author and sponsors during consideration.**

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.12 Resolution Calling for the Establishment of a Cultural Activities Fee

Number of Vote: 26 voted in favor, 4 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

**This legislation recommends the introduction of a universal fee for a service already available to students at "a highly reduced cost", in the words of the piece. At this time, the greater student population is wholly uninterested in increasing the cost of attendance for this purpose.**

Acknowledged are the following pieces considered and passed by the Student Senate.

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.10 Resolution in Support for The Texas State Employees Union's Petition

Number of Vote: 20 voted in favor, 9 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.13 Resolution Calling for the Theatre Department to Adjust its Curriculum to Better Accommodate Students

Number of Vote: 20 voted in favor, 10 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.16 Resolution Calling for the Installation of Artistic Murals

Number of Vote: 18 voted in favor, 8 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.17 Resolution Calling for Updated Calorie and Diet Specific Information in Dining Halls

Number of Vote: 29 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.18 Resolution Calling for the Creation of Cultural Diversity Flagged Course in Required Curriculum

Number of Vote: 16 voted in favor, 10 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.19 Resolution to Leverage Bobcat Trace to Further Mental Health Outreach from the University

Number of Vote: 26 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.20 Resolution Calling on Free Masks in Major Student Service Buildings

Number of Vote: 28 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 1 voted to abstain

Legislation Passed: S.R.2020-2021.21 Resolution to Encourage Fee Transparency When Registering for Classes, Through an Online Code Pledge

Number of Vote: 30 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

**Author:**

Senator Gurvitz, Shoval

**Sponsors:**

Senator Halter, Colton

Senator Haynes, KeAirra

Senator Retz, Cody,

Senator Cleveland, Jacob

Senator Stephanos, Jenna

**S.R. 20-21.12**

**Date of First Reading: September 21, 2020**

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**A Resolution**

To be known as "A Resolution Calling for the Establishment of a Cultural Activities Fee," which calls for the University to establish a fee to help fund the fine arts.

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**WHEREAS:** The University requires that all students take Intro

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to Fine Arts (ARTS 2313) or equivalent in order to

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achieve a well-rounded education; and

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**WHEREAS:** Students are typically required to attend an art

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gallery, theater, dance, and/or music production to

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pass the class; and

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**WHEREAS:** Students are able to attend University productions at

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a highly reduced cost; and

10 **WHEREAS:** The University currently charges a \$330 mandatory  
11 athletics fee which also provides students with free  
12 attendance to games; and

13 **WHEREAS:** Other universities in Texas, such as Texas Tech, have  
14 a Cultural Activities fee that "provides funds to  
15 support all aspects of the presentational elements for  
16 the College of Visual & Performing Arts and allows  
17 students to fully participate in the widely diverse  
18 presentations, performances, and events without an  
19 additional charge and is only charged to students  
20 enrolled in courses at the Lubbock campus." in which  
21 "Students enrolled in four or more semester credit  
22 hours will be charged an \$18.80 fee per term." and  
23 "Students enrolled in less than four semester credit  
24 hours will be charged a \$9.40 fee per term."<sup>1</sup>; and

25 **WHEREAS:** Texas State is ranked very highly both nationally (top  
26 10%) and statewide (#6 in the state) for its  
27 Department of Theater and Dance<sup>2</sup>; and

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<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentbusinessservices/FormRepository/globalFee/TTU-GlobalFeeDocument-2018-2020.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://performing-art-schools.com/texas-state-university-san-marcos#:~:text=Based%20on%2067%20evaluation%20factors,Performing%20Arts%20School%20in%20Texas.>

28 **WHEREAS:** The departments and programs under the College of Fine  
29 Arts and Communication would benefit greatly from more  
30 funding; and

31 **WHEREAS:** Texas State currently has no fee to help fund the Fine  
32 Arts; now, therefore:

33 **BE IT RESOLVED:** We recommend that the University implement a  
34 \$5.00 Cultural Activity fee for students  
35 enrolled for courses at the San Marcos  
36 campus and that students may attend  
37 productions and events relating to the fine  
38 arts free of charge.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the funds generated by this fee  
40 will be overseen by a Cultural  
41 Activities Fee Advisory Committee made  
42 up of 5 voting student members,  
43 appointed by the Student Body  
44 President, and 4 voting faculty/staff  
45 members appointed by the University  
46 President or designee, following a  
47 model similar to the Student Service  
48 Fee Advisory Committee; and

49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** This resolution is to be forwarded to  
50 the Student Body President for further  
51 action.