

TEXAS  STATE
UNIVERSITY

The rising STAR of Texas

Memorandum

June 23, 2021

To: 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 2020-2021.48

Legislation S.R.2020-2021.48 “Calling for Campus Power Cogeneration and an Emergency Shelter” passed by the Student Government Senate on March 8th, 2021, is attached. I support this legislation that recommends the university to move forward with improving emergency power and shelter operations.

Cc: Dr. Angelica Coronado, Attorney for Students & Director
Student Government Co-Advisor

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

This letter is an electronic communication from Texas State University.



Memorandum

June 4, 2021

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

From: Andrew Gryce, Student Body President

Subject: Student Government Passed Legislation: Senate Resolution 2020-2021.48

Please find attached the below legislation S.R.20-21.48 passed by the Student Senate on March 8th, 2021.

Legislation Passed: S.R. 2020-2021.48 Senate Resolution Calling for Campus Power Cogeneration and an Emergency Shelter

Number of Vote: 32 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 2 voted to abstain

I approve this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate Resolution Calling for Campus Power Cogeneration and an Emergency Shelter that calls for the University to continue power generation in case of a natural disaster and establishes an emergency shelter center.

AUTHOR

Senator Moloney, Patrick

SPONSORS

Senator Rogers, John

Senator Vargas, Valeria

Senator Sjule, Neva

Senator McMahon, Montana

Senator Bailey, Brett

Senator Chalaire, Grant

Senator Shi, Tiger

Date of First Reading: March 8th, 2021

S.R.2020-2021.48

1 **A Resolution**

2 To be known as "A Resolution Calling for Campus Power Cogeneration
3 and an Emergency Shelter" that calls for the University to continue
4 power generation in case of a natural disaster and establishes an
5 emergency shelter center.

6 **WHEREAS:** The Student Government of Texas State University, on
7 behalf of the student body of Texas State University,
8 would like to address the institutions' ability to
9 maintain power and resources for students in the event of
10 a natural disaster; and

11 **WHEREAS:** The state of Texas's recent failure of the electric grid
12 during Winter Storm Uri exposed areas of improvement for
13 Texas State University's utilities and campus
14 sustainability; and

15 **WHEREAS:** Power was lost to major campus buildings and residents
16 halls, forcing the university to rely on heated busses
17 for students both on and off campus; and

18 **WHEREAS:** Texas State University's ability to maintain electricity
19 was also limited by rolling blackouts ordered by the
20 Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) and
21 enforced by the San Marcos Electric Utility (SMEU); and

22 **WHEREAS:** Students in the wider San Marcos community and across the
23 state were left with limited resources, with multiple
24 institutions unable to address the dire needs for food,
25 water, and shelter; and

26 **WHEREAS:** After several days during the natural disaster, Texas
27 State University was able to provide free meals to
28 students facing food insecurity; and

29 **WHEREAS:** There is an utmost need for a proactive, planned response
30 to any future natural disasters at Texas State University;
31 and

32 **WHEREAS:** Texas State University has the capabilities to maintain
33 power to buildings on campus through proposed power
34 cogeneration or Combined Heat and Power (CHP); and

35 **WHEREAS:** Considering the circumstances surrounding the power
36 outage and the current need to address future natural
37 disasters, CHP is necessary for student, staff, and
38 faculty; and

39 **WHEREAS:** The University has also identified the Student Recreation
40 Center as a potential shelter with adequate showers,
41 heating, and planning space; therefore,

42 **BE IT RESOLVED:** Texas State University push forward the
43 ability for Facilities to maintain on campus
44 power to institutional buildings and
45 residents' halls through CHP during inclement
46 weather and natural disasters. Additionally,
47 the University should plan to use the Student
48 Recreation Center as an emergency shelter for
49 students, faculty, and staff during any future
50 natural disaster; and

51 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** This legislation be forwarded to the
52 Student Body President for further
53 action.

https://www.universitystar.com/news/cold-frustrated-hungry-how-the-winter-storm-left-residents-in-the-dark-searching-for-answers/article_9ab72d6a-72e8-11eb-821c-6f963bfa747c.html