

The rising STAR of Texas

SG Legislation received by: PW received date: \$/22//9

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dean of Students Dr. Margarita Arellano

Assistant Dean of Students Kathryn Weiser

DATE: Monday, May 13, 2019

FROM: Corey Benbow, Student Body President

SUBJECT: S.R. 11 TXST Sit-In 2 Student Protestors' Demands Resolution

I approve of this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate which is to accept and implement the demands of the TXST Sit-In 2 student protestors.

Moreover, I find the demands of the student protesters are reasonable and I believe these demands will contribute to the greater college campus climate. While I admit some of the demands from the outset may not be able to be implemented. It is our duty to see that those that can be implemented happen in a resonable time. When students feel the need to perform a sit-in to get their grievances addressed by the university administration it is our responsibility as a campus community to answer with action. I hope the university administration will join Student Government in taking action.

Corey F. Benbow

Student Body President '20



## Sponsors

Senator Tichy, James Senator Gasponi, Claudia

S.R. 2019-2020.11

Date of First Reading: May 8th, 2019

## A Resolution

To be entitled the "Acceptance and Implementation of TXST Sit-In 2 Student Protestors' Demands Resolution."

- 1 WHEREAS: The Student Protestors involved in the protest against
- 2 white supremacists on May 1, 2019 were unjustly suppressed and
- 3 criminalized by the University Police Department; and
- 4 WHEREAS: The Student Protestors were justified in organizing a
- 5 non-violent and non-disruptive protest against the Texas State
- 6 Administration and the University Police Department; and
- 7 WHEREAS: The protestors did not engage in violence while
- 8 engaging in the TXST Sit In 2, and the protestors were willing
- 9 to work with the Administration to best voice their concerns
- 10 within the bounds of the University Policies, and the Protestors
- 11 did not disrupt any of the regular functions of the LBJ Student
- 12 Center; and

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- 13 WHEREAS: The demands are quoted as thus: "
- Handling of student conduct issues by Dean of Students NOT
   by San Marcos Police.
  - a. Students should not be transferred from the University Police Department to county jail for misdemeanor charges;
    - b. Creation of a student task force to assist in handling student conduct issues and non-violent offenses;
- 21 2. Mandatory sensitivity training for University Police

- a. UPD should be trained in how to recognize and overcome biases regarding minority students, including but not limited to student of color, LBGTQIA+ students, and students with disabilities;
  - 3. The addition of a cultural diversity requirement to the general core curriculum
    - a. This includes the expansion of diverse course options under current core requirements, including but not limited to, 'Language, Philosophy, and Culture,' and 'Advance Literature Electives';
  - 4. The creation of a campus workforce by student government to protect workers' rights throughout the University; and
- 34 WHEREAS: The demands presented by the TXST Sit In 2 Student
  35 Protestors are reasonable and possible for the University
  36 Administration to Implement; therefore,

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- 37 **BE IT RESOLVED:** The Student Government Senate endorses the non-38 violent and non-disruptive exercise of Students' first amendment 39 rights to protest by the Students involved in the TXST Sit In 2; 40 and
- 41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The Student Government Senate formally requests that the University Administration adopt and implement the plan outlined in the demands of the Protestors within one full academic year from the passing of this resolution; and
- 45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The Student Body President will be 46 permitted, at their discretion, to not recommend certain demands 47 that they deem to be impossible to implement due to legal or 48 other complications; and
- 49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** This letter will be forwarded to the 50 Student Body President for further action.