

TEXAS  STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*The rising STAR of Texas*

SG Legislation  
received by: *KW*  
received date: *10/16/19*

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Dean of Students Dr. Margarita Arellano  
Assistant Dean of Students Kathryn Weiser

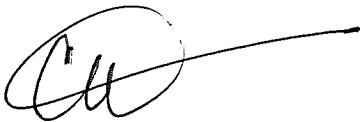
DATE: Tuesday, October 8, 2019

FROM: Corey Benbow, Student Body President *(B)*

SUBJECT: S.R.19 A Resolution Calling on Texas State University to  
Implement an Independent Police Advisory Council

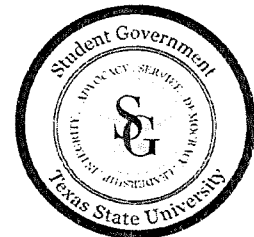
I approve of this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate  
which is Calls on the University Administration establishes an  
Independent Police Advisory Council strategically positioned  
independent of the Police Department in order to provide authentic  
community engagement, policy review, informal complaint analysis, as  
well

x



Corey F. Benbow

Student Body President '19-20



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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*Texas State University was founded in 1899.*

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**Texas AUTHOR**

Senator DeSalvo, Cody

**SPONSORS**

Senator Moncada, David  
Senator Wicker, Catherine  
Senator Camargo, Eduardo  
Senator Halter, Colton  
Senator Nieves, Preston  
Senator Cleveland, Jacob  
Senator Struck, Ry  
Senator Bailey, Brett  
Senator Torpey, Kelly  
Senator Mack, Christopher  
Senator Florence, Andrew  
Senator Norman, Tyreoneta  
Senator Richardson, Brittlin  
Senator Tichy, James  
Senator Perrodin, Jules  
Senator Llagas, Rica  
Senator Gonzales, Matthew

**S.R. 2019.2020.19**

**Date of First Reading: September 30, 2019**

**A Resolution**

To be known as "A Resolution Calling on Texas State University to Implement a Campus Safety and University Police Advisory Council," which calls on the University administration to establish a Campus Safety and University Police Advisory Council strategically positioned in order to provide authentic community engagement, policy review, informal complaint analysis, as well as research through data transparency on issues of campus safety.

- 1 **WHEREAS:** Student Government serves as the official voice for  
2 students at Texas State University; and

3 **WHEREAS:** The University Police Department (UPD) serves as the  
4 officially recognized law enforcement on the Texas  
5 State University campuses<sup>1</sup>; and

6 **WHEREAS:** UPD is expected to create a high-performing, diverse  
7 team, committed to the principles of community  
8 policing through the demonstration of best practices  
9 in university law enforcement while providing a safe  
10 and inclusive learning and working  
11 environment<sup>2</sup>; and

12 **WHEREAS:** UPD publicly commits to adhering to the following  
13 values to guide their conduct, including **Transparency**  
14 - availability of information for effective  
15 collaboration and cooperation with our community;  
16 **Respect** - treat everyone with dignity and compassion;  
17 **Integrity** - uphold the highest ethical standards;  
18 **Innovation** - create visionary solutions in the pursuit  
19 of excellence<sup>3</sup>; and

20 **WHEREAS:** The Chief of Police, under the general administrative  
21 direction of the University President<sup>4</sup>, is responsible  
22 for and has commensurate authority to command, direct,  
23 and organize the UPD; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.police.txstate.edu/about/history-and-mission.html>  
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.police.txstate.edu/about/history-and-mission.html>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.police.txstate.edu/about/history-and-mission.html>  
<sup>4</sup> [https://gato-docs.its.txstate.edu/jcr:8107d675-b45d-4f40-bc44-500035a30dce/2019%20Rules%20and%20Regs%20\(rev%20thru%2008-22-19\).pdf](https://gato-docs.its.txstate.edu/jcr:8107d675-b45d-4f40-bc44-500035a30dce/2019%20Rules%20and%20Regs%20(rev%20thru%2008-22-19).pdf)

24 **WHEREAS:** In 2014 the University of California Davis established  
25 a robust independent Police Accountability Council  
26 (PAB) that includes multiple undergraduate students,  
27 graduate students, and staff members as voting  
28 members<sup>5</sup>; and

29 **WHEREAS:** The University of California Merced has recently  
30 created a Police Advisory Council of 16 members that  
31 includes representation of students, faculty, and  
32 staff including a reserved spot for an undocumented  
33 student<sup>6</sup>; and

34 **WHEREAS:** Municipalities across the nation have adopted robust  
35 oversight of police departments in order to foster a  
36 more direct feedback loop between police and the  
37 communities they serve; and

38 **WHEREAS:** The University currently has an ad-hoc Safety and  
39 Security Taskforce which touches on many of the  
40 concerns noted by current Texas State Community  
41 members; and

42 **WHEREAS:** Texas State University Systems Rules and Regulations,  
43 Chapter IV, Section 2.2(10), authorizes the University  
44 President to appoint campus committees, councils, and

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<sup>5</sup> [https://pab.ucdavis.edu/pab\\_members.html](https://pab.ucdavis.edu/pab_members.html)

<sup>6</sup> <https://chancellor.ucmerced.edu/about-office/police-advisory-board>

45 teams, and appointing or establishing procedures for  
46 the appointment of faculty, and staff<sup>7</sup>; and

47 **WHEREAS:** UPD can demonstrate its commitment to the core value  
48 of innovation through adoption of transparent  
49 community government practices even if other major  
50 Texas universities have not; therefore,

51 **BE IT RESOLVED:** The Student Government at Texas State  
52 University, through the advocacy of its  
53 Senators and Student Body President, call on  
54 the University President to institutionalize  
55 the Safety and Security Taskforce by  
56 restructuring its membership, retrofitting its  
57 purpose, and renaming so as to clearly outline  
58 its purpose and scope, the newly  
59 institutionalized council will be organized as  
60 a Presidential Council to be known as the  
61 Campus Safety and University Police Advisory  
62 Council and will be organized and self-  
63 sustained in accordance principles in Appendix  
64 A;

65 **BE IT RESOLVED:** The Student Government authorizes the Student  
66 Body President to negotiate in good faith

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<sup>7</sup> [https://gato-docs.its.txstate.edu/jcr:8107d675-b45d-4f40-bc44-500035a30dce/2019 Rules and Regs \(rev thru 08-22-19\).pdf](https://gato-docs.its.txstate.edu/jcr:8107d675-b45d-4f40-bc44-500035a30dce/2019%20Rules%20and%20Regs%20(rev%20thru%2008-22-19).pdf)

67 related to the specifics of this resolution in  
68 order to bring about the creation of a council  
69 with the stated purpose and goals even if it  
70 does not exactly fit the exact wording in  
71 Appendix A; and

72 **BE IT RESOLVED:** This legislation shall be forwarded to the  
73 Student Body President for further action.

74 **Appendix A**

75  
76 **Campus Safety and University Police Advisory Council**

77 **I. PURPOSE**

78 A. The Campus Safety and University Police Advisory Council functions in an advisory  
79 capacity to the university and University Police Department related to issues of  
80 campus safety and police department operations. The Council should strive to work  
81 collaboratively with the Texas State University Police Department. However, the  
82 Council is not intended to act as a component of the Police Department and is situated  
83 specifically as a Presidential Council so that can provide independent oversight and  
84 objective advice and scrutinize University Police Department practices, policies, and  
85 processes. While the Council is an independent body, the Council will regularly  
86 report directly to the University President or Vice President designee. The Council  
87 will have other responsibilities and rights granted by the university which include:

- 88 1. Advise university staff responsible for safety, emergency response, and  
89 university police on issues related to their area of operation.
- 90 2. Conduct annual campus safety and lighting walk review.
- 91 3. Serve as a liaison between the University Police Department and the  
92 University community.
- 93 4. Advise and make recommendations to the President or designee  
94 concerning policy and practices of the University Police.
- 95 5. Advise and make recommendations to the President or designee  
96 concerning actions of the University Police Department and officers.
- 97 6. To be briefed by the Chief of Police regarding complaints of officer  
98 behavior and subsequent investigations of officers.
- 99 7. Conduct campus wide survey or use other methods to assess campus and  
100 police engagement.
- 101 8. To be briefed on all use of force incidents by the University Police.
- 102 9. To function as a sounding board for the Chief of Police and President or  
103 designee on various issues or concerns involving the University Police.

- 104 10. To provide input on programs and initiatives to enhance campus safety.  
105 11. To prepare an annual report of the Council's activities, which must be  
106 forwarded to the University President and made public on the University  
107 Police website.

108 **II. SUPPORT**

- 109 A. The President or Vice President designee will provide financial and staff support for  
110 the operations of this Council.

111 **III. COMPOSITION**

- 112 A. The Council will consist of nine (9) members of the campus community; eight (8)  
113 will serve as voting members, one (1) will serve as ex officio member. All members  
114 of the Council will be appointed to two (2) year terms. All new members of the  
115 Council must be accepted by the previous year's Council prior to taking a position on  
116 the Council. All members of the Council must have demonstrated a commitment to  
117 our University's diversity and inclusion statement.

- 118 B. Voting members will be composed of the primary constituent groups of the campus  
119 community: 1) Students, 2) Faculty, 3) Staff, 4) Local Community:

- 120 1. There will be three (3) student representatives, one (1) appointed by the  
121 Student Government, one (1) appointed by the Residence Hall  
122 Association, and one (1) appointed by the Underrepresented Students  
123 Advisory Council.

- 124 2. There will be two (2) faculty representatives appointed by Faculty Senate.

- 125 3. There will be two (2) staff representatives appointed by Staff Council.

- 126 4. There will be one (1) member of the local San Marcos community as  
127 selected through a process outlined by the Council.

- 128 5. There will be one (1) non-voting and ex officio designee from UPD  
129 leadership (though not the Chief of Police).

- 130 C. The Council will be Co-Chaired by one faculty representative and one student  
131 representative as elected from within the Council.

132 **IV. OPERATING PROCEDURES**



133 A. The Council will set its own operating procedures, policies, and processes which  
134 cannot conflict with university police or the following standing rules of the  
135 Committee:

136 1. The Council will meet at least monthly during the academic year. The  
137 scheduled of meetings will be developed at the beginning of each  
138 academic year by the Co-chairs.

139 2. For the purposes of conducting the Council’s business, a simple majority  
140 of the Council’s voting members must be present.

141 3. Meetings will be closed with the exception of public comment period  
142 during each meeting, and any public forum events conducted by the  
143 Council.

144 4. The Council will coordinate an open public forum each academic year to  
145 receive campus concerns.

146 5. The Co-Chairs will meet annually with the Texas State University System  
147 Board of Regents Audit and Risk Council or designee.

148 **V. ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMMUNITY**

149 A. The Council will release an annual report every academic year. This report will  
150 summarize a pertinent finding about community and police engagement, as well as  
151 clearly outline the role and impact of the Council. The Annual Report will be  
152 intentionally shared with members of the campus community that are more impacted  
153 by policing.

154 1. The Council will conduct at least one Public Forum or Town Hall style  
155 event a year to hear feedback from the campus community. Public  
156 meetings must be coordinated and facilitated by the Council and reflect  
157 the current needs of the campus community.

158 2. The Council will facilitate and review survey data relating to the campus  
159 community’s experience with the University Police.

160 i. This data will be collected and evaluated by the Council using  
161 available university tools.

162 ii. This data will be distilled into a public report for the campus  
163 community.

164  
165  
166

- iii. This data will then be used to inform the ways in which the Council engages with members of the campus community around policing.