S.R. 72-39

Texas A&M University The Student Senate 72nd Session

Support for the Texas A&M Undocumented Community Resolution

"A resolution to support and acknowledge the undocumented community that may be affected by the recent political developments."

Action Taken:

PASSED Certified By: Em Mendo

Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed:

215/2020

Introduced By:

John Ryan Rodriguez, Legislative Relations Chair, College of Agriculture

and Life Sciences Caucus

Jocelyn Marrufo, College of Liberal Arts Caucus Aaron Wood, College of Engineering Caucus

Hannah Hardison, Off-Campus Caucus Cody McQueen, Off-Campus Caucus Josh Feldman, Off-Campus Caucus Rachel Hutto, Off-Campus Caucus

Sponsored By:

Clarissa Rodriguez, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, Engineering Caucus

Hunter Martin, Off Campus Caucus

Suyash Gupta, Executive Director of Operations, Off-Campus Caucus

Whereas(1): The Texas A&M Student Senate recognizes the challenges that immigrant,

undocumented, and DACA recipient students may face in comparison to students

who are U.S. Citizens or hold a student visa; and,

Whereas(2): The status of the DACA program is currently dependent on the outcome of the case, the Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California, in which the Supreme Court is reviewing the constitutionality of the Department of Homeland Security's move to end the program; and,

Senate Resolution S.R. 72-39 – Page 2 of 5 Further Certified By: Will Mendoya

Eric Mendoza

Speaker of the Senate

Whereas(3): As a result of this hearing young people across the nation exercised their first amendment right of expression and rallied; namely Austin, TX and Washington D.C. where Aggies came together to stand with the undocumented community; and,

Whereas(4): The Texas A&M Student Senate Legislative Relations committee among other senate members had the opportunity to hear personal stories and experiences from members and supporters of the undocumented community on Texas A&M University's campus; and,

Whereas(5): There are students within the Texas A&M University System who are concerned about their citizenship/residential status within the United States, and fear that recent and potential changes to the United States's policy towards immigration may require them to abandon their scholastic endeavors at Texas A&M University and its sister institutions; and,

Whereas(6): For generations, Texas A&M University has fostered and advocated for an academic community that respects all Aggies in accordance to the University's core values; and,

Whereas(7): Though it has been the intention of the university to provide such an environment for every student that comes to Texas A&M University, there is more work to be done; and,

Whereas(8): The Texas A&M University Student Senate believes that an education is a universal right that belongs to everyone, regardless of labels given by governing states and/or societal bodies.

Therefore Let it be

Resolved(1): As long as people desire to learn, regardless of their citizenship or residential status in the United States, Texas A&M University shall strive to be the standard institution that supports its students through its actions, regardless of their residential/citizenship status in this country; and,

Senate Resolution S.R. 72-39 – Page 3 of 5 Further Certified By: W Mem

Speaker of the Senate

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(2): The Texas A&M Student Senate categorically rejects and condemns any abusive

behavior and language towards students regardless of their immigration status;

and;

Let it be

Further

Resolved(3): Texas A&M Student Senate acknowledges and supports every former and current

Texas A&M student regardless of immigration status, and acknowledges that

thousands of future Aggies will be affected by this issue; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(4): Texas A&M Student Senate recognizes the recent national developments

revolving around the Supreme Court case on DACA may have negatively affected students and implores students affected to reach out to university staff including, but not limited to: Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS.tamu.edu), Helpline-Division of Student Affairs (979-845-2700), Office of the Dean of Student Life, Resident Advisors, Academic Advisors, or Peer Mentors; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(5): The Texas A&M University Student Senate encourages all current students that are undocumented or DACA recipients to reach out to the numerous resources provided to them on campus, such as counseling services, career services, legal resources, scholarship and financial aid, the department of multicultural services,

the Council for Minority Student Affairs and more; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(6): Texas A&M Student Senate does not advocate for a specific policy position, but recognizes that to fully address this issue, we urge the United States Congress to pass legislation that addresses these legal issues that may impact an individual's immigration status for all future, present, and former Aggies; and,

Senate Resolution S.R. 72-39 – Page 4 of 5 Further Certified By:

Eric Mendoza

Speaker of the Senate

Let it be Further

Resolved(7): A copy of this resolution be sent to:

John Sharp, Chancellor of Texas A&M University
Michael K. Young, President of Texas A&M University
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
Michael O'Quinn, Vice President of Governmental Relations
Edgar Rivera, Council for Minority Student Affairs President

The Battalion

John Cornyn, United States Senator for Texas
Ted Cruz, United States Senator for Texas
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, 12th Congressional District of California,
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

Gregory Abbott, Governor of Texas

Senate Resolution S.R. 72-39 – Page 5 of 5 Further Certified By: Mem

Erie Mendoza

Speaker of the Senate

Addendum

Further Sponsored By:

Collin Tran, Off Campus Caucus
Sydney Ramon, Transition Academic Programs
Edgar Rivera, Off-Campus Caucus
Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus
Patric Morgan, College of Education
Hannah Hardison, Off-Campus Caucus
Julia Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Dang Dang, Off-Campus Caucus
Cody Price, Health Science Center
Iman Ahmed, On Campus Caucus
Erica Pauls, Off-Campus Caucus