



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-07

Texas A&M University
The Student Senate
73rd Session

LGBTQ+ Pride Month Resolution

"A resolution recognizing the month of June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month and recognizing LGBTQ+ history at Texas A&M University."

Action Taken:

PASSED

Certified By:

Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: June 10th, 2020

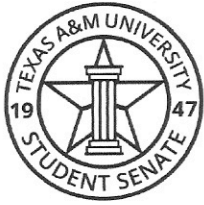
Introduced By: Collin Tran, Health Science Center Caucus
Dang Dang, Off-Campus Caucus
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off-Campus Caucus
Megha Viswanath, Off-Campus Caucus
Michael Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Lillian Pieper, Diversity Commissioner

Sponsored By: David Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus
Rachel Hutto, Off-Campus Caucus
Brendan Ramirez, College of Education and Human Development
Aariana Myles, Off-Campus Caucus

Whereas(1): LGBTQ+ Pride Month is celebrated each year in the month of June in commemoration of the Stonewall Riots of 1969; and,

Whereas(2): In 1999, 2000, and from 2009 to 2016, Former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama issued proclamations that recognized June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the United States¹; and,

¹ <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/commemorative-observations/pride.php>



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary McCue".

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Whereas(3): In 1976, the Gay Student Services (GSS), a group composed of over twenty Aggies was denied recognition as a student organization by Dr. Koldus². The students sued the university in February 1977. The Trial Court ruled in favor of Texas A&M University, but the students then appealed to the Fifth U.S Circuit Court of Appeals, which overturned their verdict, thus ordering the school to recognize the student organization³; and,

Whereas(4): In 2014, the Princeton Review⁴ named Texas A&M University one of the least LGBTQ+ friendly campuses in the country; and,

Whereas(5): In August of 2016, Texas A&M has been removed from Princeton Review's LGBT-Unfriendly College list⁵, proving that Aggieland has taken steps to become a more welcoming university of people in the LGBTQ+ community; and,

Whereas(6): In 2017, Texas A&M University sent representatives to participate in Houston Pride celebrations for the first time. Student, staff, and faculty representatives have continued to participate in this tradition every year since; and,

Whereas(7): Lavender Graduation was sparked by Dr. Ronni Sanlo to recognize LGBTQ+ students of all races and ethnicities. Texas A&M University is currently recognized by the Human Rights Campaign⁶ for their continuation of the Lavender Graduation ceremony, which was first celebrated on campus on April 16th of 2014; and,

Whereas(8): Texas A&M held its first drag show titled "Draggieland" on February 19th, 2020, that featured many Texas A&M students, local community members, and Monique Heart, a world-renowned Drag Queen. The sold-out event was attended by individuals across the nation; and,

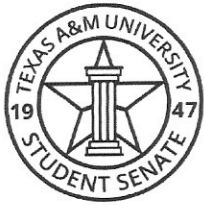
² <https://houstonlgbthistory.org/misc-aggies.html>

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gay_Student_Services_v._Texas_A%26M_University

⁴ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2014/08/12/baylor-texas-am-ranked-among-least-lgbt-friendly-colleges/>

⁵ http://www.thebatt.com/life-arts/a-m-removed-from-lgbtq-unfriendly-list/article_7b146b50-845c-11e6-866d-3ff65bda754d.html

⁶ <https://www.hrc.org/resources/lavender-graduation>



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Whereas(9): As of 2017, more than 600 students, staff, and faculty have participated in the Aggie Allies program⁷. Aggie Allies are individuals who are committed to providing support for the LGBTQ+ members of the Texas A&M University community.

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(1): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate recognizes the month of June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(2): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate recognizes Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, transgender women of color, and Black Drag Queens, to the LGBTQ+ liberation movement and the Stonewall Riots of 1969; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(3): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate applauds the LGBTQ+ Pride Center for seamlessly adjusting during the COVID-19 pandemic by hosting a virtual Lavender Graduation⁸ and a series of events⁹ to celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride Month; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(4): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate recognizes the contributions of Phyllis R. Frye, a Texas A&M former student and the first openly transgender judge appointed in the United States, for her contributions to the transgender community; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(5): The 73rd Student Session of the Student Senate recognizes and upholds the 71st Sessions Resolutions titled “The Support for the LGBT Community and the GLBT Center at Texas A&M” and “The Gender-Inclusive Bathroom Resolution”; and,

⁷ <https://allies.tamu.edu/what-is-an-ally/>

⁸ <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/lgbtq/programs/lavgrad/>

⁹ <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/lgbtq/programs/pride-month/>



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Let it be

Further

Resolved(6): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate recognizes and will always welcome all LGBTQ+ Aggies, former students, and prospective students; and,

Let it be

Further

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

President Michael K. Young

Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs

Dr. Means-Coleman, Texas A&M Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion

Phyllis R. Frye, Associate Judge

The Battalion

LGBTQ+ Pride Center

Aggie Allies

GLBT Professional Network

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Aggies

LGBTQA Graduate Student Group

Makeup Artist Aggies (MUA AGS)

Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (oSTEM)

Transcend



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Speaker of the Senate

Further Sponsored By: Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus

Emily Lucas, College of Education

Sam Jefferis, Academic Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Jocelyn Marrufo, Liberal Arts Caucus

Sofia Chunga Pizarro, Off Campus Caucus

Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus

Jack Merritt, On Campus Caucus

Paige Wirth, College of Geosciences

Julia Garcia, Health Science Center

Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Nate Ames, Corps of Cadets

Kat Nino, Off Campus Caucus

Bryan Marin, Vet Med and Biomedical Sciences Caucus

Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus

Alina Corpus, Engineering Caucus