



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-08

Texas A&M University
The Student Senate
73rd Session

Honoring George Floyd Resolution

"A resolution honoring George Floyd and how his death has reignited the call for systematic reform against racial injustice faced by Black Americans, alongside its implications on the Aggie community"

Action Taken:

PASSED

Certified By:

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

Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: June 10th, 2020

Introduced By: Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off-Campus Caucus
Corniyah Bradley, Off-Campus Caucus
Aariana Myles, Off-Campus Caucus
Erica Pauls, Sub-Committee Chair, The Period Project

Sponsored By: Collin Tran, Health Science Center Caucus
David Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Rachel Hutto, Off-Campus Caucus
Dang Dang, Off-Campus Caucus
Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus
Michael Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Megha Viswanath, Off-Campus Caucus
Joseph Rodgers, Off-Campus Caucus
Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus
Bryan Marin, Vet Med & Biomedical Sciences Caucus

Whereas(1): On Monday, May 25th, 2020, George Floyd¹, a 46-year-old black man, was senselessly killed in Minneapolis, Minnesota while in the custody of four former Minneapolis police officers; and,

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/us/george-floyd-investigation.html>



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Whereas(2): George Floyd was allegedly arrested² for purchasing goods with a counterfeit \$20 bill at Cup Foods; and,

Whereas (3): George Floyd's tragic interaction with police was recorded in a video³ that demonstrated former Officer Derek Chauvin kneeling on the neck of Floyd for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. He kneeled on his neck as Floyd pleaded that he "could not breathe" multiple times and continued to do so even after he was unresponsive. The remaining three officers, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao, and J. Alexander Kueng did not stop his actions in any way; and,

Whereas (4): According to the statement⁴ released by the family's attorney, Benjamin Crump, regarding the independent autopsy results it states that "Mr. Floyd's death was a homicide caused by asphyxia due to neck and back compression that led to a lack of blood flow to the brain. Sustained pressure on the right side of Mr. Floyd's carotid artery impeded blood flow to the brain, and weight on his back impeded his ability to breathe. The independent examiners found the weight on the back, handcuffs and positioning were contributory factors because they impaired the ability of Mr. Floyd diaphragm to function." The independent medical examiners found that "there is no other health issue that could cause or contribute to the death."; and,

Whereas(5): Officer Derek Chauvin was fired and has been charged with second degree murder. The three remaining officers, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao, and J. Alexander Kueng were also fired and were more recently charged⁵ with aiding and abetting second degree murder; and,

Whereas (6): While George Floyd died in Minneapolis, he had strong roots and ties to Southeast Texas, he grew up in Houston's Third Ward and graduated from Jack Yates High School⁶ in Houston, Texas. He attended Texas A&M University Kingsville⁷ between 1995-1997 and his son⁸ currently resides in Bryan, Texas; and,

² <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-52861726>

³ <https://www.facebook.com/darnellareallpretty/posts/1425401580994277>

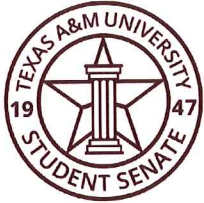
⁴ <https://www.npr.org/2020/06/01/867219130/george-floyd-independent-autopsy-homicide-by-asphyxia>

⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/06/03/george-floyd-police-officers-charges/>

⁶

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/03/3-more-cops-charged-in-george-floyd-death-other-officers-murder-charge-upgraded.html>

⁷ <https://today.tamu.edu/2020/06/03/texas-am-reacts-to-killing-of-george-floyd-nationwide-unrest/>



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Whereas(7): George Floyd's death has triggered an outcry in the form of protests across the United States⁹ and the world¹⁰. This international outcry was not only about seeking justice for Floyd, but for all the members of the black community¹¹ who have faced racial injustice over the centuries, such as Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor, just to list the most recent victims; and.

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(1): The 73rd Session of Student Senate honors George Floyd's memory and offers their deepest condolences to his family and loved ones during this time; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(2): The 73rd Session of Student Senate condemns the police officers' actions that led to George Floyd's death, alongside all acts of police brutality and support the call for the conviction of all officers involved; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(3): The 73rd Session of Student Senate supports the peaceful protesters nationwide in their righteous call for justice and condemn those who diminish the importance of these protests for their own purposes; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(4): The 73rd Session of Student Senate recognizes this event is not the first incident of police brutality involving a former member of the Texas A&M University System, neither is it the first time police brutality has taken the life of a Black person in America; and,

⁸ <https://abc13.com/george-floyd-son-bryan-back-lives-matter-black-protest-minneapolis/6224513/>

⁹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/map-protests-rallies-george-floyd-spread-across-country-n1220976>

¹⁰

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2020/06/mapping-anti-racism-solidarity-protests-world-200603092149904.html>

¹¹ <https://www.npr.org/2020/05/29/865261916/a-decade-of-watching-black-people-die>



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Let it be

Further

Resolved(5): The 73rd Session of Student Senate urges all students to speak out in the face of injustices in order to create a more welcoming environment for marginalized groups; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(6): The 73rd Session of Student Senate stands in solidarity with the Black community in Aggieland and throughout the country who have been unheard, underrepresented and uncared for; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(7): The 73rd Session of Student Senate acknowledges that Black Americans, along with other minority groups, have historically not been equally supported by institutional systems in comparison to their White counterparts to this day and supports all calls for reformation; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(8): The 73rd Session of Student Senate encourages all Aggies to seek out meaningful relationships with the Black community at Texas A&M University by actively engaging with Black organizations, listening to their stories, and attending their events to build a more consolidated campus; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(9): The 73rd Session of Student Senate calls for the administration of Texas A&M University to proactively address matters of race and discrimination on this campus and hold students accountable for upholding the Aggie Core Values of Respect, Integrity, and Excellence; and,



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Speaker of the Senate

**Let it be
Further**

Resolved (10): The 73rd Session of Student Senate calls on Texas A&M University to further improve the Stop Hate reporting system so that student's feel reassured by the University's commitment to preventing hate in the Aggie community; and,

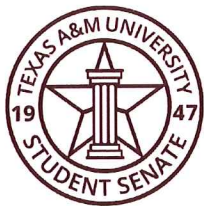
**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(11): The 73rd Session of Student Senate affirms the sentiment that all lives cannot matter until Black Lives Matter; and,

**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(12): A copy of this resolution be sent to:

The Family of George Floyd
Benjamin Crump, Family Attorney
Keith Ellison, Attorney General of Minnesota
President Michael K. Young
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Tonya Driver, Director of the Department of Multicultural Services
Dr. Robin R. Means Coleman, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity
Black Student Alliance Council
African Student Association
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Black Leaders On Campus
Black Wall Street
Carter G. Woodson Black Awareness Committee
National Society of Black Engineers
National Pan-Hellenic Council
Matthew Gaines Initiative
Black Graduate Student Association
Aggie Black Male Connection
Mosaic Flowers
Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference
Excellence uniting Culture, Education, and Leadership
Voices of Praise
The Battalion



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Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Further Sponsored By: Hannah Spurr, Speaker Pro Tempore, Off-Campus Caucus

Dylan Sione, Off-Campus Caucus

Julia Garcia, Health Science Center Caucus

Sam Jefferis, Academic Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Sofia Chunga Pizarro, Off-Campus Caucus

Cole Allen, Mays Caucus

Jack Merritt, On Campus Caucus

Brogan Gunia, Off-Campus Caucus

Kieran Tillis, Engineering Caucus

Jordan Vick, Liberal Arts Caucus

Alina Corpus, Engineering Caucus

Colette Jones, Vet Med & Biomedical Sciences Caucus

Meghan Hein, Rules & Regulations Chair, C.O.A.L.S Caucus

Paige Wirth, College of Geosciences Caucus

Mikayla Nasis, On Campus Caucus

Kat Nino, Off-Campus Caucus

Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus

Shaila Ramirez, College of Science Caucus

Chandler Trosclair, On Campus Caucus

Michael McKnight, Off-Campus Caucus

Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Blake Martin, Liberal Arts Caucus

Garrett Lindsey, Transition Academic Programs Caucus

Joshua Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off-Campus Caucus