Thank You for Supporting Higher Education Resolution

“A thank you to the Texas Delegation and the United States Congress for supporting higher education”

Action Taken: PASSED

Certified By: Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: July 8th, 2020

Introduced By: Joshua Eric Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off Campus Caucus

Sponsored By: Cedrick Mattli, Vice President of Legislative Relations
Joseph Rodgers, Off-Campus Caucus
Chandler Trosclair, On-Campus Caucus
Dylan Flores, Off-Campus Caucus
Brogan Gunia, Off-Campus Caucus
Hannah Spurr, Speaker Pro Tempore, Off Campus Caucus

Whereas(1): In March 2020, Aggies and students across the United States watched as the world around them effectively shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic caused by SARS-CoV-2; and,

Whereas(2): In an effort to adhere to Federal and State social distancing guidelines, and with the intention to protect the faculty, students, staff, as well as the surrounding community, Texas A&M University and other institutions of higher learning across the United States made the extremely difficult decision to shift to an online format; and,
Whereas(3): While the transition to virtual courses may have protected the health of affected parties, the economic burden produced by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent shutdowns had; and continues to, relegate many families into an uncertain economic future; and,

Whereas(4): The United States Congress acknowledged the economic uncertainty for students and passed numerous provisions, guidelines, and demonstrated support to higher education and research institutions; and,

Whereas(5): Through their support, Texas A&M received $19,908,222 in financial assistance through the CARES Act, of which $10,739,806 was made directly available to current students, with a portion of the total received funds being set aside to assist with costs students may incur this fall,

Whereas (6): In addition, a safer environment for returning Texas A&M students this Fall has been realized through online options for students, dedicated sanitization efforts, research opportunities, plexiglass installations in key areas around campus, and the installation of cameras in classrooms due to federal and state support to ensure the safest possible environment for students.

Therefore
Let it be
Resolved(1): The Texas A&M Student Senate would like to express our deepest gratitude to the United States Congress, and specifically, the Texas Congressional Delegation for their support of higher education and Texas A&M; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(2): We acknowledge and understand the immense pressure that the current epidemic has; and will continue to have, on our public officials, and thank them for their time and dedication in serving our country; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(3): The Texas A&M Student Senate further acknowledge that there are a plethora of other issues that the United States Congress has addressed; and will continue to address, in regards to funding during the COVID-19 Epidemic; and,
Let it be
Further
Resolved(4): We encourage, and would be extremely grateful, for further assistance from the United States Congress to ensure higher education remains the standard for American exceptionalism in the future, and throughout these extremely difficult times.

Let it be
Further
Resolved(5): A copy of this resolution be sent to:
    Chancellor John Sharp
    President Michael K. Young
    Michael G. O’Quinn, Vice President for Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives
    Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
    Michael J. Hardy, Assistant Vice President for Government Relations
    The Texas Congressional Delegation
    The Battalion
    The Eagle
Further Sponsored By: Aariana Myles, Off Campus Caucus
   Erin Steglich, Off Campus Caucus
   Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus
   Jack Merritt, On Campus Caucus
   Fawaz Syed, Student Services, Engineering Caucus
   Aaron Wood, Engineering Caucus
   Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus
   Holden Tumlinson, College of Geosciences
   Joseph Rodgers, Off Campus Caucus
   Mikayla Nasis, On Campus Caucus
   Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion, Off Campus Caucus
   Bryan Marin, Ved Med & Bio Sciences