Matthew Gaines Bus Resolution

A resolution to support the renaming of Aggie Spirit Bus Route #36 Cotton Bowl to Bus Route #36 Matthew Gaines.

Action Taken: PASSED

Date Passed: 02.28.20

Certified By: Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Introduced By: Fawaz Syed, Student Services Chair, Engineering Caucus
Erica Pauls, President of the Matthew Gaines Society

Sponsored By: Sam Jefferis, Academic Affairs, Engineering Caucus
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off Campus Caucus

Whereas(1): All Texas A&M Bus Routes are named after certain facets of Texas A&M through its history, culture and tradition; and,

Whereas(2): Senator Matthew Gaines was one of the first African-American state senators and was instrumental in the 12th Texas Legislature’s passage of Senate Bill 276, which created the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas under the Land-Grant College Act of 1862, also known as the Morrill Act; and,

Whereas(3): Senator Matthew Gaines passionately supported the forward movement for public education that established the first public school system for all Texans; and,

Whereas(4): The work of Senator Matthew Gaines along with those who served on the 12th Legislature, was integral to the founding of Texas A&M University; and,

Whereas(5): This work should be honored and recognized as part of Texas A&M culture, history and further traditions; and,
Whereas(6): Along with the work of the Matthew Gaines Society with the commemoration of an on-campus statue, the naming of a bus stop would not only be fitting for a campus figure like Senator Matthew Gaines, but also a great way to increase the outreach among the student body; and,

Whereas(7): Senator Matthew Gaines and Matthew Gaines Society embodies the spirit of Aggieland through the society’s mission of “proving that every Aggie, no matter what race, ethnicity, gender, religion or background, can make a lasting impact on our campus;” and,

Whereas(8): The Texas A&M Student Senate aims to raise awareness of Senator Matthew Gaines and his contribution to Texas A&M University.

Whereas(9): According to Student Senate October Ag Input, sixty-one percent of the students who responded to the survey agreed to change the bus route name in order to honor Senator Matthew Gaines.

Therefore
Let it be
Resolved(1): The Texas A&M Student Senate recommends that the Transportation Services Advisory Committee moves to rename Bus Route #36, currently named “Cotton Bowl”, to “Matthew Gaines” in Spring or Fall 2021; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(2): The Texas A&M Student Senate congratulates the Matthew Gaines Society, formerly known as the Matthew Gaines Initiative, in reaching their goal to fund a statue of Senator Matthew Gaines.
Let it be
Further
Resolved(3): A copy of this bill be sent to:
Matthew Gaines Society
President Micheal K. Young
Transportation Services Advisory Committee
Traditions Council
Graduate & Professional Student Government
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
Sarah Hamilton, Doctoral Assistant - Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Jerry R. Strawer, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Peter Lange, Associate Vice President for Transportation Services
The Battalion