

The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-25

Texas A&M University
The Student Senate
73rd Session


The In-Person Silver Taps Resolution

"A resolution to express the need for collaboration in bringing Silver Taps into an in-person/virtual hy-flex format and "

Action Taken

PASSED

Certified By:

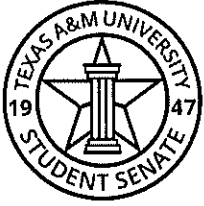

Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 10-14-2020

Introduced By: Zach McCue, Speaker of the Senate, Off Campus Caucus
Eric Mendoza, Student Body President
Michael Osborne, Traditions Council Chair

Sponsored By: Joshua Eric Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off Campus Caucus
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off Campus Caucus
Carly Oldag, Community Relations Chair, C.O.A.L.S Caucus
Fawaz Syed, Student Services Chair, College of Engineering
Meg Hein, Rules and Regulations Chair, C.O.A.L.S Caucus
Chandler Trosclair, On Campus Caucus
Aaron Wood, Engineering Caucus

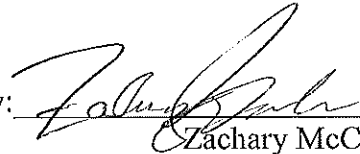
Whereas(1): As of August 18th, 2020, Texas A&M University released a statement revealing the intent to have 30,000 (30%) people - amended on August 19th to be 25,000 (25%) - in attendance at Kyle Field during football games this season. Since then Kyle Field has successfully hosted two home football games; and,



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- Whereas(2):** Beyond football, the University has begun bringing socially distanced, large-scale, events back onto campus such as hosting 1,500 people at Breakaway in Reed Arena and 2,000 people in Kyle Field for Midnight Yell; and,
- Whereas(3):** These events have all maintained strict face covering and social distancing guidelines allowing Students to attend safely without significant reported spikes in COVID-19 cases; and,
- Whereas(4):** On August 17th, 2020, Traditions Council and Student Assistance Services, following guidelines set forth by the university announced, along with Texas A&M University, that Silver Taps would be held virtually throughout the fall semester - an announcement which was made before football was successfully held in person; and,
- Whereas(5):** Silver Taps is a solemn tradition of Texas A&M University and is a ceremony sacred to all Aggies which has been held since 1898 to honor those Aggies who have passed within the most recent month; and,
- Whereas(6):** Before now, Silver Taps had never been held online, and while these times require us to adapt in all arenas of life, the Student Senate believes that every effort should be made to preserve the sacred nature of the Silver Taps ceremony whilst maintaining the ability for those to attend virtually who are unable to attend in person; and,
- Whereas(7):** In order to safely reverse the earlier decision, Traditions Council and Student Assistance Services would need to provide for the safety of attendees which will require social distancing resources, safety protocols, and resources to make a hybrid model possible.

Therefore

Let it be

- Resolved(1):** That the Student Senate recognizes the University's resolve to bring as many traditions and events back to having in person elements by providing hy-flex (Hybrid model) resources and opportunities; and,



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**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(2): The Student Senate asks the University to make available the necessary resources to Traditions Council so that Silver Taps may regain an in-person element and move into the hy-flex format; and,

**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(3): The Student Senate further asks that the Committees, Branches, and Commissions of SGA provide any resources at their disposal to aid Traditions Council's efforts to bring Silver Taps into a hy-flex model; and,

**Let it be
Further**

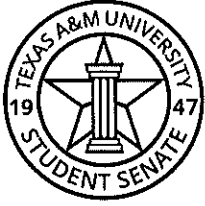
Resolved(4): The Student Senate also asks our fellow students to help make an in-person Silver Taps possible by respecting any and all guidelines for masks and social distancing set forth by Traditions Council; and,

**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(5): The Student Senate and the student body uphold the principle that Silver Taps is a sacred tradition held with the purpose of honoring our fellow Aggies who have recently passed and is about uplifting and supporting their families; and,

**Let it be
Further**

Resolved(6): A copy of this resolution be sent to:
John Sharp, Chancellor, Texas A&M University System
Michael K. Young, President of Texas A&M University
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President for Student Affairs at Texas A&M University
Dr Carol A. Fierke, Provost of Texas A&M University
Ross Bjork, Director of Athletics, Texas A&M University
Eric Mendoza, Student Body President
Michael Osborne, Traditions Council Chair
Student Assistance Services
The Battalion



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Further Sponsored By: Mikayla Nasis, On Campus Caucus
Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus
Cole Allen, Mays Caucus
Joseph Rodgers, Off Campus Caucus
Brogan Gunia, Off Campus Caucus
John Carter Teague, Finance Chair, C.O.A.L.S Caucus
David Garcia, Off Campus Caucus
Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus
Colette Jones, Vet Med & Biomedical Sciences Caucus
Dang Dang, Off Campus Caucus
Julia Garcia, Health Science Center Caucus
Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus
Tyler Smith, C.O.A.L.S Caucus
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Blake Martin, Liberal Arts Caucus
Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus
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Yovanka Carolyn Gonzalez, Mays Caucus