



The Student Senate

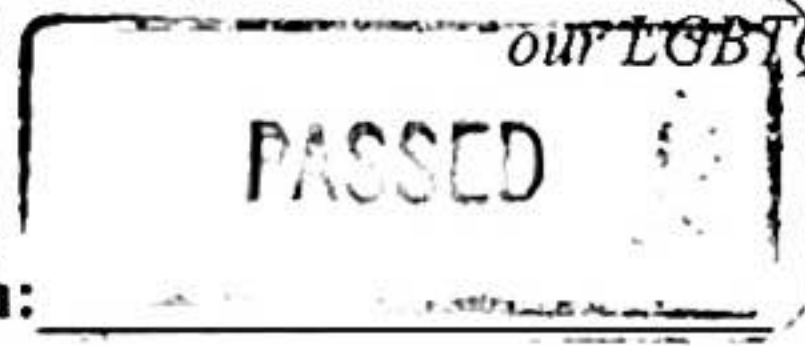
Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-26

Texas A&M University
The Student Senate
73rd Session

LGBTQ+ History Month Resolution

"A resolution recognizing the month of October as LGBTQ+ History Month and in support of our LGBTQ+ Aggie community."



Action Taken:

Certified By:

Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 10-24-20

Introduced By: Dang Dang, Off Campus Caucus
David Garcia, Off Campus Caucus
Collin Tran, Health Science Center Caucus
Lily Pieper, SGA Diversity Commissioner
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off Campus Caucus

Sponsored By: Jocelyn Marrufo, Liberal Arts Caucus

Whereas(1): LGBT History Month recognizes the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements; and,

Whereas(2): In 1994, a coalition of education-based organizations in the United States recognized October as LGBT History Month, as a way to teach and celebrate LGBTQ+ history as it was not taught in the classroom; and,

Whereas(3): In 1995, a resolution passed by the General Assembly of the National Education Association included LGBTQ History month in a list of commemorated months. National Coming Out Day on October 11th, as well as the first "March on Washington" in 1979, are key events commemorated during LGBTQ+ History Month. This month was further endorsed by GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and other national

1 <https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about/>

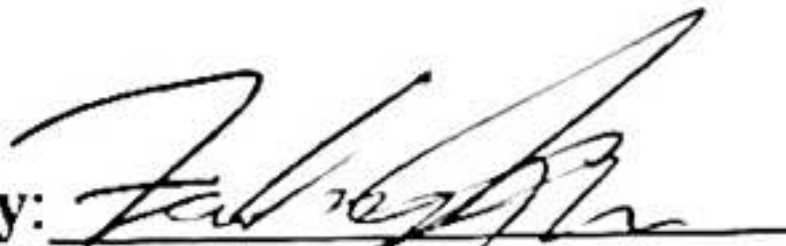
2 <https://lgbthistorymonth.com/background>



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Organizations₂; and,

Whereas(4): In 1976, the Gay Student Services (GSS), a group composed of over twenty Aggies were denied recognition as a student organization by Dr. Koldus₃. The students sued the university in February 1977 and eventually won the case, thus ordering the school to recognize the student organization. This paved the way for the many organizations we see today that serve LGBTQ+ Aggies; and,

Whereas(5): In 1994, The Gender Issues Education Services (GIES) office was established at Texas A&M University to focus on LGBTQ+ services. Through the efforts of this office and university officials, Texas A&M adopted a harassment and discrimination statement that included recognition of sexual orientation in 2000. During the 2004 - 2005 academic year, the GIES was combined with the Women's and Gender Equity Resource Center. After later dividing, the GIEC (Gender Issues Education Center) arose and would be housed within the Division of Student Affairs. In 2008, the GIEC was formally renamed to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) Resource Center. In January 2020, the GLBT Resource Center became known as the LGBTQ+ Pride Center, and remains dedicated to supporting LGBTQ+ Aggies₄; and,

Whereas(6): In 2002, Noel Freeman became the first openly gay Corp of Cadets member, being the first in the Corp's 125 year history₃; and,

Whereas(7): In 2003, the Supreme Court ruling on *Lawrence v. Texas* determined that sodomy laws in Texas, which criminalized certain intimate sexual conduct between two consenting adults of the same sex was unconstitutional, thus invalidating all sodomy laws in Texas and throughout the nation₅; and,

Whereas(8): In 2010, Phyllis R. Frye, a Texas A&M former student, was sworn in as the first openly transgender judge appointed in the United States₆; and,

Whereas(9): In 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth

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

4 <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/lgbtq/about/>

5 <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Lawrence-v-Texas>

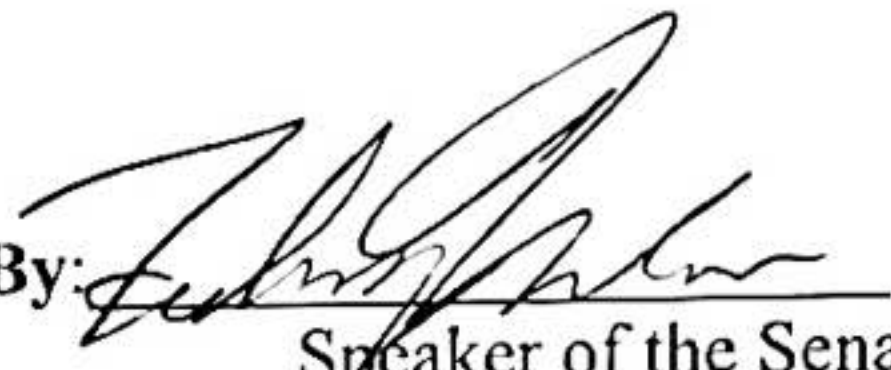
6 <https://www.uh.edu/lgbtq/rainbow-friends/founding/phyllis-randolph-frye/>



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Amendment guarantees the right to marriage equality for both same-sex and opposite-sex couples⁷. This decision formally established marriage equality in the United States. Prior to this decision, Texas, alongside 13 other states, had bans on same-sex marriage; and,

Whereas(10): In 2017, Texas A&M University elected its first openly gay Student Body President, Bobby Brooks⁸; and,

Whereas(11): In June 2020, The Supreme Court ruled in three landmark cases^{9, 10, 11} that discrimination against gay, lesbian, and transgender employees violates the 1964 Civil Rights Act, therefore establishing unprecedented national protections for the LGBTQ+ community. Prior to these decisions, workplace, housing, and public accommodation discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity were legal in Texas; and,

Whereas(12): During the 71st Session of the Student Senate (2018 - 2019), members of the Senate body wrote and passed the very first piece of legislation that supported the LGBTQ+ community at Texas A&M University, which was “S.R. 71-14 *The Support for the LGBT Community and the GLBT Center at Texas A&M Resolution*”¹²; and,

Whereas(13): In honor of the LGBTQ+ history month, the LGBTQ+ Pride Center is hosting a series of virtual events, including “Let’s Talk, Talk Wednesday, and The Coming Out Monologues Writing Workshop,” that creates a safe space for LGBTQ + students and families to come and share their stories¹³.

7 <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2014/14-556>

8

http://www.thebatt.com/news/brooks-to-serve-as-first-openly-gay-sbp/article_db1aebd0-0cfd-11e7-bb6c-e740acd0583c.html

9 <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2019/17-1618>

10 <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2019/17-1623>

11 <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2019/18-107>

12 <https://senate.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/SR-71-14.pdf>

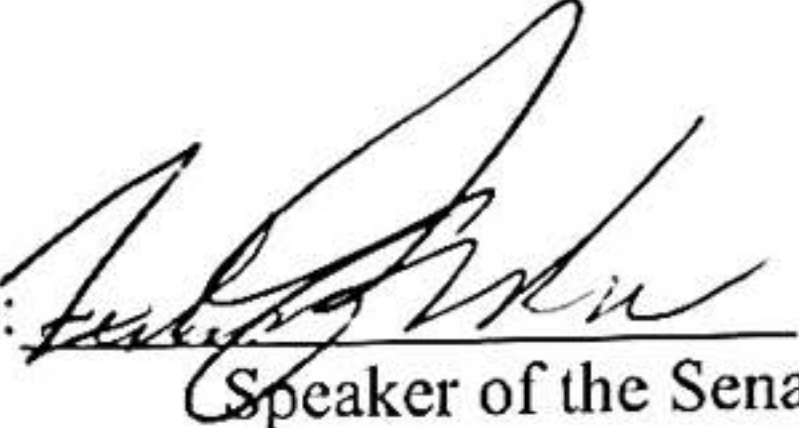
13 <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/lgbtq/programs/lgbt-history-month/>



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Speaker of the Senate
Zachary McCue

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(1): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate recognizes the month of October as LGBTQ+ History Month; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(2): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate applauds the LGBTQ+ Pride Center for hosting virtual events during the month of October to educate members of the Aggie community on the significance of LGBTQ+ History Month; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(3): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate commends the LGBTQ + Pride Center for their dedication to serving LGBTQ+ Aggies for over 20 years, by providing resources and educational opportunities for students, families, faculty, and staff; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(4): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate commends the affirming services provided by Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) for LGBTQ+ students,¹⁴ such as hosting “Let’s Talk” group discussions and encourages LGBTQ+ students to utilize these resources and services provided by CAPS; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(5): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate appreciates the contributions of the pioneers who fought for LGBTQ+ civil rights and celebrates current and former LGBTQ+ students who continue to pave the way; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(6): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate proudly stands with and supports all past, present, and future LGBTQ+ Aggies and all LGBTQ+ individuals everywhere; and,

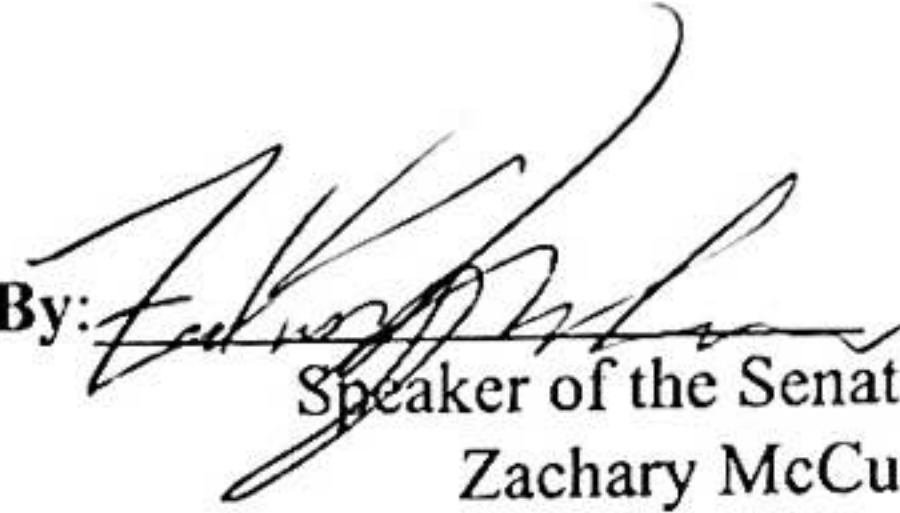
¹⁴ <https://caps.tamu.edu/diversity-inclusion/lgbtq/caps-services/>



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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

LGBTQ+ Pride Center

GLBT Professional Network

Aggie Allies

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

LGBTQA Graduate Student Group

The Battalion

Transcend



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary McCue", is written over a horizontal line.

Speaker of the Senate
Zachary McCue

Further Sponsored By: Sofia Chunga Pizarro, Off Campus Caucus

Megha Viswanath, Off Campus Caucus

Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus

Yovanka Carolyn Gonzalez, Mays Caucus

Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus

Kat Nino, Off Campus Caucus

Michael Garcia, Off Campus Caucus

Alina Corpus, Engineering Caucus

Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus

Paige Wirth, College of Geosciences

Lauren Devenzio, Off Campus Caucus

Kieran Tillis, Engineering Caucus

Joshua Eric Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off Campus Caucus

Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Julia Garcia, Health Science Center

Jordan Vick, Liberal Arts Caucus

Aktaa Patel, Off Campus Caucus

Aariana Myles, Off Campus Caucus

Shaila Ramirez, College of Science