S.R. 73-39

Texas A&M University The Student Senate 73rd Session

Strong Together Report Resolution

"A resolution thanking the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Stronger Together Report and the Texas A&M Board of Regents for the approved actions to ensure a more inclusive, diverse, and welcoming campus"

PASSED

Action Taken:

Certified By

Zachary McCue

Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 02/03/21

Introduced By:

Victor J. Ferro, Engineering Caucus

Sponsored By:

Michael McKnight, Off-Campus Caucus

Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion, Off-Campus Caucus

Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus

Whereas(1): On July 13, 2020, Former Texas A&M University President Michel K. Young

announced the creation of a Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and,

Whereas(2): The Commission was comprised of 45 members including students, staff, and

former students; and,

Whereas(3): The Commission "was charged to provide findings — not recommendations,

opinions or conclusions — related to diversity, equity and inclusion at Texas A&M through research and discourse across topics of racial intolerance,

University policies and practices, and historical representations such as statues."¹;

and

¹ http://www.tamus.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/CDEI_Final_Report_2021.pdf (pg.4)



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Speaker of the Senate Zachary McCue

Whereas(4): The report with all the findings was released to the public on a message by the

Interim President John L. Junkins on January 25th, 2021; and,

Whereas(5): On the same date, a statement by the Texas A&M Board of Reagents was released approving the recommended actions and budget by Interim President John L. Junkins to "better serve our land-grant mission regarding diversity, equity and inclusion."2

Therefore Let it be

Resolved(1): Texas A&M Student Senate thanks the hard work and dedication of Elaine Mendoza '87 (Chair, Board of Regents), Bill Mahomes '69 (Member, Board of Regents), Ruth Simmons (President, Prairie View A&M University), Iman Ahmed '22 (Student Senate Diversity), Corniyah Bradley '21 (Black Student Alliance Council), Alexandra Campbell '21 (Texas A&M Panhellenic), Tanner Cedrone '21(Corps of Cadets), Matthew B Francis Jr. '22 (TAMU NAACP), Uthej Vatipalli '21 (Graduate & Professional Student Government), Ritika Gangarapu '21 (Asian Presidents' Council), Maximiliano "Max" Lopez '21 (Hispanic Presidents' Council), Eric Mendoza '21 (President, Student Government Association), Kellen Mond '20 (Student-Athlete, Football), Fawaz Syed '23 (Class Councils, Sophomore Class President), Jack Tucker '21(Texas A&M Foundation Maroon Coats), Sean Waters '22 (International Student Association), Chante Anderson '21 (Black Graduate Student Association), Francis Achike (College of Medicine), Kristina Ballard (College of Engineering), Vernon Camus '18 (University Staff Council Galveston), David Chapman '67 (University Libraries (Retired)), Mary Ann Covey '92 (Counseling & Psychological Services), Leroy Dorsey (College of Liberal Arts), Julie Harlin '93 (Faculty Senate), Cynthia Hernandez '94 (Division of Student Affairs), John Hurtado '91 (College of Engineering), Ben Kalscheur '13 (Office of Sustainability), Dorothy Shippen (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences), Serge Razafindrakoto (Division of Information Technology), Christine Stanley '85 (College of Education), Karen Wooley (College of Science), R.C. Slocum (Office of the President, Former Texas A&M Football Coach), and Arthur Watson '15 (Transition Academic Programs) the 45 members, students, faculty, and former students, of the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for delivering the

² https://president.tamu.edu/messages/stronger-together.html

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Speaker of the Senate Zachary McCue

Strong Together Report; and,³

Let it be **Further**

Resolved(2): Texas A&M Student Senate thanks Former President Michel K. Young and Former Provost Carol A. Fierke on their direction to create the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and,⁴

Let it be **Further**

Resolved(3): Texas A&M Student Senate thanks Interim President Junkins, Chancellor Sharp, and the Board of Regents for the investment and compromise of making Texas A&M University a leading institution in "ensuring that persons of all racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds have the opportunities they deserve."⁵; and,

Let it be **Further**

Resolved(4): Texas A&M Student Senate stands with the report and the only recommendation presented by the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the report "That this report be only the beginning of the Aggie community's shared responsibility and commitment to continued conversations, forward progress, and renewed commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion for all Aggies."6

https://president.tamu.edu/committees-task-forces/commission-on-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/documents/CDEI Final Report 2021.pdf

https://president.tamu.edu/messages/announcing-commission-charge-and-membership.html

⁴ https://president.tamu.edu/messages/announcing-commission-charge-and-membership.html

⁵ https://www.tamus.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/01-25-2021 BOR Statement on Diversity.pdf

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Speaker of the Senate
Zachary McCue

Let it be Further

Resolved(5): A copy of this resolution be sent to:

John Sharp, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System John L. Junkins, Interim President of the Texas A&M University

Elaine Mendoza, Chair of the Board of Regents

Dr. Annie McGowan, Interim Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity John E. Hurtado, Co-Chair of the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Jimmy Williams, Co-Chair of the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Battalion