

Passed by unanimous consent
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AR 15

In Support of Travis County Central Health Proposition 1 in The City of Austin's Special Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6th, 2012.

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Sponsors: Cody Aarons, Joshua Fuller, Lauren Kraut, Robert Love, Jay McNamara, Rachel Robillard, MacKinzie Spaniol, Kenton Wilson

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 states that: "Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.129 per \$100 valuation in Central Health, also known as the Travis County Healthcare District, for the 2013 tax year, a rate that exceeds the district's rollback tax rate. The proposed ad valorem tax rate exceeds the ad valorem tax rate most recently adopted by the district by \$0.05 per \$100 valuation; funds will be used for improved healthcare in Travis County, including support for a new medical school consistent with the mission of Central Health, a site for a new teaching hospital, trauma services, specialty medicine such as cancer care, community-wide health clinics, training for physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals, primary care, behavioral and mental healthcare, prevention and wellness programs, and/or to obtain federal matching funds for healthcare services;" and

WHEREAS, The passage of Proposition 1 would create an estimated \$54 million dollars in revenue targeted towards the medical school and the treatment of needy local citizens provided by the faculty and students of UT-Austin; and

WHEREAS, This proposition will also allow the UT medical program to qualify for additional funding through a federal matching program; and

WHEREAS, The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce estimates that the creation of a medical school would create more than 15,000 jobs and generate more than \$2 billion in annual economic activity locally; and

WHEREAS, A UT medical school will bolster the prestige of our alma mater; and

WHEREAS, The building of a medical school and teaching hospital will directly benefit the health of community members by providing them with more doctors and health care services; and

WHEREAS, Uninsured patients would have greater access to routine and specialty care, a better quality of life and fewer costly emergency room visits; and

WHEREAS, A UT Medical School will allow for more clinical trials to be conducted in Austin, and these will benefit the local community by giving patients access to new medical therapies both during the study and more quickly afterward; and

WHEREAS, A medical school will attract new businesses and start up industries, and help make Central Texas a national leader in the fields of health care, bio tech and the life sciences; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin supports Travis County Central Health Proposition 1 in The City of Austin's Special Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6th, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to KXAN, KVUE, KEYE, KTBC, Texas Exes, The Longhorn Network, KUT Radio, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Daily Texan, the Austin American-Statesman, and Austin City Council.