A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING AN INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT NEEDED TO RECEIVE A COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP TUITION WAIVER

WHEREAS: The University of Texas at Austin is considered a public university, and

WHEREAS: Tuition waivers generally apply to out-of-state residents who are given in-state tuition rates instead of out-of-state tuition rates, and

WHEREAS: Approximately \$88 million of tuition was lost last year to Texas public colleges and universities due to out-of-state tuition waivers, and

WHEREAS: These tuition waivers apply to undergraduate and graduate students who enroll in Texas public colleges and universities, and

WHEREAS: Approximately 48,000 undergraduate and graduate students received some form of an out-of-state tuition waiver last year from Texas public colleges and universities, and

WHEREAS: Undergraduates who are Texas residents pay \$28 per credit hour while out-of-state residents pay \$171 per credit hour, and

WHEREAS: One type of tuition waiver for out-of-state residents is for those students who receive a competitive academic scholarship of at least \$200, and

WHEREAS: Approximately 9,500 students received this waiver last year which accounted for almost \$30 million in lost revenue for Texas public colleges and universities, and

WHEREAS: The academic scholarship waiver was the second leading cause of lost revenue for Texas public colleges and universities last year, and

WHEREAS: The minimum amount of \$200 for a competitive academic scholarship has not changed in more than 20 years, and

WHEREAS: An increase in the minimum amount would recoup hundreds of thousands of dollars in actual revenue for Texas public colleges and universities, and

WHEREAS: Without any reforms to the tuition waiver program, Texas legislators would face the likelihood of having to make up for the lost revenue by increasing tuition for all students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities, therefore be it