

Passed by  
unanimous consent  
3/10/15

## **J.R. 1**

### **In Support of the 2015 Invest in Texas Platform**

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#### IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND SENATE OF COLLEGE COUNCILS

**Authors:** Mr. KORI RADY (President, Student Government), Ms. GEETIKA JERATH (President, Senate), Ms. TAYLOR GUERRERO (Invest in Texas Co-Director) and Mr. JOHN BROWN (Invest in Texas Co-Director)

**Sponsors:** Mr. TANNER LONG (Representative, College of Liberal Arts)

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**WHEREAS,** Invest in Texas is a non-partisan campaign that advocates for the students of The University of Texas at Austin at the Texas Legislature through the coordinated efforts of the university's three Legislative Student Organizations (LSO's), which include the Student Government, the Senate of College Councils, and the Graduate Student Assembly; and,

**WHEREAS,** The Invest in Texas platform for the 2015 Texas Legislature is divided into six main areas of focus including; 1) in support of capital investment funding for the renovation of Welch Hall, 2) in support of the continuation of in-state tuition for undocumented students of Texas residency, 3) in support of the continuation of the Texas Competitive Knowledge Fund or similar funding and matching of grants that focus on maintaining and enhancing support of tier-1 institutions, 4) in support of a provision that allows for institutions to decide their own policies and guidelines on campus carry, 5) in opposition of the regulation of tuition and in support of allowing to determine its own tuitions and fees, 6) in support of a tax holiday for college textbooks; and,

**WHEREAS,** That the Invest in Texas Constitution states in Article I, Section B that the purpose of Invest in Texas is "to represent students at the Texas Legislature as well as to get students involved in the Texas legislative process; and,

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT & SENATE OF COLLEGE COUNCILS

**WHEREAS,** We as the Student Government and Senate of College Councils of the University of Texas at Austin, serve as the official voice of students and exist to represent student interests to the University of Texas at Austin Administration, among other audiences; and,

**WHEREAS,** According to the Invest in Texas Memorandum of Understanding, all three LSO's must be an active part of the Invest in Texas campaign; and,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That The University of Texas at Austin Student Government and the Senate of College Councils asserts that there is great value to the University and its students, faculty, and staff in adequately funding UT, allowing UT to stay academically competitive, allowing UT more autonomy in safety policies, and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Student Government and Senate of College Councils at the University of Texas at Austin, applauds the university's reputation of being "a university of the first class" and strives to maintain it by advocating at the legislature on issues of importance to higher education in order for the students' interests to be represented; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this resolution be sent to the University of Texas Board of Regents, the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the President, the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Department of Diversity and Community Engagement, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of Admissions, the Office of the Vice President of Legal Affairs, the Office of Government Relations, *The Austin American-Statesman*, *The Texas Tribune*, *The Daily Texan* and *The Horn*.