

passed with unanimous consent 4/9/13

## **AR 2 In Support of Ally Day**

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**Sponsors:** Andrew Grant Houston, Connor Hughes, Garrett Riou

**WHEREAS,** The Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (DDCE) of The University of Texas at Austin states that the university is “an inclusive community that fosters an open, enlightened and robust learning environment.”; and, [i]

**WHEREAS,** The purpose of the Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council (DESAAC) is to advance diversity and equity in the UT-Austin Community along with ensuring the widest range of student voices are heard in order to promote social justice; and, [ii]

**WHEREAS,** DESAAC focuses on diversity and inclusion issues concerning the student body while finding ways to facilitate through diversity and equity initiatives; and, [iii]

**WHEREAS,** Ally Day is an initiative of DESAAC that was created to bridge the gap between underrepresented Communities and their allies; and, [iv]

**WHEREAS,** An “Ally” is defined as someone who makes a commitment to continue to learn about culturally diverse issues and takes actions to educate others about this community; and, [v]

**WHEREAS,** An Ally is someone who explores and educates his/her/hir/self about a disenfranchised community in order to create a safe space by actively supporting the community [vi]

**WHEREAS,** Ally Day is being held on Wednesday April 17th, 2013 in order to celebrate and recognize the allies on UT Austin’s campus while they show their support for the communities they serve therefore, [vii]

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin supports Ally Day and its mission in educating students on how to become an ally to all diverse communities on campus; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin applauds the Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council for its work in educating allies, facilitating student’s concerns, addressing campus climate issues, and university wide discussions; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the President, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of Students, the Division for Diversity & Community Engagement, the Diversity and Equity Student

Action and Advisory Council, the Services for Students with Disabilities, the Gender and Sexuality Center, the Multicultural Engagement Center, all participating Ally Day organizations, Counseling and Mental Health Center, University of Texas Police Department, University Health Services, UT Wellness Network, University Residence Hall Association, and The Daily Texan.

- i The Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>
- ii The Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>
- iii The Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>
- iv The Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>
- v Gender and Sexuality Center, The University of Texas at Austin, <http://ddce.utexas.edu/genderandsexuality/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Ally-Work.pdf>
- vi The Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>
- vii The Diversity and Equity Student Action and Advisory Council, The University of Texas at Austin, <https://www.utexas.edu/diversity/>

Fast-Track Justification: Ally Day is being held next week, so we need to hear this as old business tonight if we want to be able to disseminate this piece of legislation to every office in a timely fashion, well before the event takes place.