

4/23/13 fast tracked & approved by

unanimous consent

AR 4 In Support of the Victims of the West, Texas Plant Explosion

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WHEREAS, On April 17th, 2013 at approximately 8pm, a fertilizer plant in the town of West, TX exploded, with blasts being felt as far as 45 miles away along registering as a 2.1 magnitude earthquake¹; and,

WHEREAS, the explosion caused serious amounts of damage and fatalities, leveling homes and killing at least 14 along with injuring more than 200²; and,

WHEREAS, West, TX is located 120 miles from Austin, TX, or approximately two hours away from campus³; and,

WHEREAS, The University of Texas is a flagship university for the state of Texas, serving as a representative for the state and its inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, many with relations to The University of Texas at Austin are impacted by this tragedy both directly and indirectly due to the proximity of the town along with residents of West, TX; and,

WHEREAS, Student Government has already begun collaboration with the Senate of College Councils and the Graduate Student Association by working with the University Co-op to create a tshirt that will be sold with proceeds going toward the affected victims of the incident; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin will work towards both supporting and honoring the victims of the West, Texas plant explosion; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Government will work towards collaborating with the Senate of College Councils, the Graduate Students Association, and any other willing organizations both on and off campus in order to ensure the most efficient and effective aid effort for the residents and victims of West, Texas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Legislation be sent to the President of the University, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Dean of Students, and all applicable media outlets deemed necessary.

¹ <http://www.kxan.com/dpp/news/texas/explosion-at-west-texas-fertilizer-plant>

² <http://abcnews.go.com/US/west-texas-fertilizer-plant-explosion-residents-allowed-return/story?id=19006786#.UXMxTUo6DSg>

³ <https://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=Austin,+TX&daddr=West,+TX&oe=utf-8&client=firefox-a&gl=us&panel=1&fb=1&dirflg=d&geocode=FRHXzQEdK48s-ikvA8ygmVehjF61WnUS0abXQ%3BFQ9E5QEEdq382-inHpQzPZnVPhjFFRalcpcvcl-w&t=h&z=8>

Fast Track / Old Business Justification - Due to the need to respond in the most appropriate manner, there was time needed in order to make sure this resolution was written with the utmost clarity and conciseness. In order to assist in the efforts for West Texas most expediently, this resolution should be moved into old business.