

A.R. 26

In Support of Jewish Students at The University of Texas at Austin

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Sponsors: REPRESENTATIVE CHARLOTTE FITZPATRICK (*University Wide*), REPRESENTATIVE HOLDEN HOPKINS (*First Year*), REPRESENTATIVE DANNY McNAMARA (*University Wide*), REPRESENTATIVE GRIFFIN OLESKY (*Undergraduate Studies*), REPRESENTATIVE GRACE OYENUBI (*Social Work*), REPRESENTATIVE SANTIAGO ROSALES (*University Wide*), REPRESENTATIVE GREYSON RUBIN (*Architecture*), REPRESENTATIVE STEVEN SANTOYO (*Communications Rep*), REPRESENTATIVE MAKENZIE STUARD (*Liberal Arts*), REPRESENTATIVE PRIYA SURI (*Liberal Arts*)

WHEREAS, The Student Government at The University of Texas at Austin serves as the official voice of students; and,

WHEREAS, The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility¹; and,

WHEREAS, The core purpose of The University of Texas at Austin is to transform lives for the benefit of society²; and,

WHEREAS, The University of Texas at Austin, as evidenced by the existence of the Division for Diversity and Community Engagement and the University Diversity Action Plan, among other indicators, aims to advance socially-just learning and working environments that foster a culture of excellence through diverse people, ideas, and

¹<https://www.utexas.edu/about/mission-and-values>

²<https://www.utexas.edu/about/mission-and-values>

perspectives³; and,

WHEREAS, A center for Jewish student life at the University of Texas, Texas Hillel, was vandalized and had a window shattered⁴; and,

WHEREAS, Last week Gregory L. Fenves, President of The University of Texas at Austin, released a statement condemning recent anti-semitic events in West Campus; and,⁵

WHEREAS, A heavily anti semitic Facebook post was published to the University of Texas at Austin, Class of 2020 (Official Group) Facebook page; and,

WHEREAS, Numerous Jewish cemeteries in the United States have been vandalized in recent weeks⁶; and,

WHEREAS, There have been 67 bomb threats and incidents at 56 Jewish Community Centers in 27 states since the start of 2017; and therefore⁷,

BE IT RESOLVED, That Jewish students and faculty members at The University of Texas at Austin greatly enhance the quality of an education on our campus by exposing students to new perspectives and ideas that may be starkly different from their own; and therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That Jews around the world are fearful in the wake of a rise in antisemitism, hate crimes, and events like those listed above, and they seek -- as well as deserve -- safety and comfort in the University community; and therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That members of The University of Texas at Austin community stand by and in solidarity with our Jewish students and counterparts -- and that the University does everything it can to protect and support these students; and therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, the Multicultural Engagement Center, and the Daily Texan.

³ <http://diversity.utexas.edu/strategic-plan/>

⁴ <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2017/02/28/utpd-apd-investigating-vandalism-at-texas-hillel>

⁵ <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2017/02/28/utpd-apd-investigating-vandalism-at-texas-hillel>

⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/28/us/jewish-community-center-donald-trump.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fus&action=click&contentCollection=us®ion=rank&module=package&version=highlights&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=sectionfront>

⁷ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/bomb-threats-jewish-community-centers_us_58ab56a5e4b0f077b3ecfec4

