

Texas A&M University
Graduate and Professional Student Council
General Assembly
2016-2017 Session

**A Resolution In Opposition of Senate Bill 6 - “Texas Privacy Act” of
the 85th Texas Legislature**

Presented by Alisha Ahamed on February 21, 2017

- Whereas: The Graduate and Professional Student Council exists to govern and to serve as the voice of all graduate and professional students at Texas A&M University.
- Whereas: The Senate Bill 6 - ‘Relating to regulations and policies for entering or using a bathroom or changing facility; authorizing a civil penalty; increasing criminal penalties’ seeks to place undue burden on the transgender and gender non-conforming community by forcing members to use a bathroom that corresponds to their biological sex [1].
- Whereas: The Graduate and Professional Student Council understands the intention of the authors in trying to ensure public safety but contends that there is no firm data or verifiable information of a transgender person harassing a cisgender person in a bathroom/showering facility [OR] of male predators pretending to be transgender attempted to gain access to women’s spaces in the State of Texas.
- Whereas The results of a study conducted by St.Edward’s University, Austin that was commissioned by the Texas Association of Business indicate that the bathroom bill could cost the state upwards of \$8 billion in economic impact and 100,000 jobs lost[2]
- Whereas: Aside from the economic impact, the Graduate and Professional Council urges the members of the Senate to consider the discrimination that the trans community will face following the enactment of such a law
- Whereas: Similar legislation HB 1748 filed during the 84th Legislature have been shot down by members of the Texas Legislature due to the discriminatory language and the negative repercussions it would have on the Texas economy[3]

Let it be Resolved: The Graduate and Professional Student Council urges the members of the esteemed Senate body and the members of the Senate Committee on State Affairs to follow the example of Speaker Joe Straus and disallow the bill from proceeding further

Let it be Further Resolved: A copy of this resolution shall be posted and delivered to:

Sen. Joan Huffman
Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Bryan Hughes
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Brian Birdwell
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Brandon Creighton
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Craig Estes
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr.
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Jane Nelson
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Charles Schwertner
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Judith Zaffirini
Member, Senate Committee on State Affairs
Sen. Lois Kolkhorst
Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Paul Bettencourt
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Brian Birdwell
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Dawn Buckingham
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Donna Campbell
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Charles Creighton
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Craig Estes
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Bob Hall
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Kelly Hancock
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Donald Huffines
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Bryan Hughes
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Robert Nichols
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Charles Perry

Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Larry Taylor
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Sen. Nicholas Taylor
Co-Author of Senate Bill 6
Karen Butler-Purry
Associate Provost for Graduate & Professional Studies of Texas A&M University
Michael K. Young
President of Texas A&M University
Kelly Brown
Editor of The Eagle, Bryan
Sam King
Editor of The Battalion
Paul Taele
President of the Graduate and Professional Student Council
Jamie Wangler
Advisor to the Graduate and Professional Student Council
Stefanie Baker
Advisor to the Graduate and Professional Student Council
Anne Reber
Dean of Student Life of Texas A&M University
Alisha Ahamed
Author of resolution

Action Taken: _____

Certified By: _____

Christian Nygren
Executive Vice President

Date: _____

Duly Approved By: _____

Paul Taele
President

[1] - <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=85R&Bill=SB6>
[2] - <http://www.keeptxopen.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/KTOB-Economic-Study.pdf>
[3] - <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=84R&Bill=HB1748>