

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
APRIL 28TH, 2015

In opposition to efforts by the Texas State Legislature to restrict the rights and freedoms of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or any other gender, sexual, or romantic minority (LGBT/GSRM).

REAFFIRMING, The University of Texas at Dallas' commitment to protecting all members of the university community regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity ;

OPPOSING, numerous bills in the Texas legislature that would both discriminate against and limit rights of LGBT/GSRM persons;

WHEREAS, certain bills in the legislature seek to restrict the freedoms of gender and romantic minorities, including preventing the issuance of marriage licenses, barring access and the provision of access to restroom and locker room facilities to transgender individuals by implementing fines and jail time, and preventing local municipalities from barring discrimination based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity with regards to housing, nonprofit assistance, and rendering goods and services;

WHEREAS, the American Civil Liberties Union finds that numerous state and local laws across the nation that protect restroom and locker room access for transgender persons have not been shown to increase sexual assault rates;

CONSIDERING, the proposed Texas laws that would discriminate against LGBT/GSRM persons serve only to demean members of gender, sexual, and romantic minorities and serve no legitimate state purpose, and that such laws would make it more difficult for The University of Texas Dallas to find and maintain a talented and diverse selection of students, faculty, and staff;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Student Government of The University of Texas at Dallas opposes any bill put forth by the State of Texas that restricts the rights and freedoms of people based on their gender identity and/or sexual orientation and additionally supports the rights of gay and lesbian couples to marry, transgender persons to use the restroom and locker room facilities that match their gender identity, and LGBT/GSRM persons to be able to access institutions, businesses, and services without discrimination.

President Brooke Knudtson

Vice President Nancy Fairbank