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**S.R.**

**Date of First Reading:** May 8, 2019

**A Resolution –**

**A Resolution to be known as “A Resolution Supporting Peaceful Protests, and Respect for Freedom of Speech and Expression” which supports the right of people to peaceably assemble, redress, express, and speak on important issues during protest.**

**WHEREAS:** Freedom of assembly, the right to redress grievances, the right to free expression, and the right to free speech are cornerstones in the foundation of a fair, free, and democratic society; and

**WHEREAS:**  Student Government’s core values include Democracy and Advocacy, both concepts that require the promotion of robust and sometimes vocal stances on important issues of national, state, local, and campus importance; and

**WHEREAS:** On May 1,2019, students gathered in the Quad to counter protest the possible arrival of white supremacists to the Texas State University campus, and after a student-on-student altercation and several interactions between student protesters and on-campus police forces, 4 Texas State student protestors were arrested and charged with various misdemeanor offenses; and

**WHEREAS:** Any person on the Texas State campus assembling for the purpose of exercising their rights of assembly, redress, expression, and free speech should do so in accordance with the Texas State University Shared Values of free exchange of ideas in a supportive environment, civility, compassion, fairness, respect, and nonviolent and ethical behavior, THEREFORE;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** We acknowledge and respect that all people have a legal right to peacefully protest on campus, but we urge persons and groups who cannot adhere to our shared values and principles to consider refraining from protesting at Texas State University; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** We call for any group protesting on campus to adhere to our campus’s shared values by protesting using nonviolent methods and without antagonizing student bystanders, police, and those who protestors may not agree with, regardless of the protestor’s political affiliation; and

**BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED:** That upon passage, this resolution be forwarded to the Student Body President for further action.