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**S.R. 2019-2020**

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

**A Resolution-**

**A Resolution to be known as “A Resolution Calling for Protection Against Election Intimidation” which calls for an administrative response to ensure student safety from political intimidation at on-campus polling places.**

**WHEREAS** Texas State University is home to one of the largest voting blocks in Hays County; and

**WHEREAS:** Texas State University voter turnout during early voting for the 2018 midterm elections, “reached 46.6 percent, surpassed total early voting turnout in the 2016 and 2012 presidential elections and the 2014 midterm election,”[[1]](#footnote-1); and

**WHEREAS:** Every Texas State University student should have access to the political polls without fear; and

**WHEREAS:** During the last election cycle, campaigns, political groups and other students tried to intimidate or pressure students to vote; and

**WHEREAS:** The student body has expressed concerns for their safety regarding political expression; and

**WHEREAS:** The county passed a vote that would shift the county to permanent vote centers; and

**WHEREAS:** The location including the placement of Texas State University’s polling place should be decided for 2019 and forward; and

**WHEREAS:** Students, post-2018 election cycle, expressed concerns about the placement and the laws that outside groups and campaigns continued to break; and

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The Texas State University Student Government strongly calls for the reestablishment of the Voting Task Force and requests University President Denise Trauth and the university staff work with county officials to make suggestions regarding the location; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**: The Voting Task Force’s recommendations of an on-campus polling placement willbest ensure students are free from political intimidation while in line to vote and while voting in accordance with Tex. Elec. Code Title 6 Chapter 61; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The policies and the physical placement should be reported to the Texas State University students, the city, county, all political groups and the public no later than 60 days prior to the 2019 election cycle and 30 days for future elections; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** If passed, this simple resolution be forwarded to the Student Body President.

1. Matt Zdun, Chris Essig, and Darla Cameron, Texas Tribune, 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)