Executive Order

TO: Cabinet, Senate, House, and Supreme Court

FROM: Corey F. Benbow, Student Body President

DATE: October 14, 2019

SUBJ: Proclamation of Indigenous Peoples Day

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and bylaws of Student Government of Texas State, including Title IV, Chapter 100, Article I, Sections (3) (4); I, COREY F. BENBOW, Student Body President do hereby proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, the idea of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Americans to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, the United States endorsed the United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People in December 2010, and Article 15 of that declaration reads: 1) Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories, and aspirations, which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information; 2) States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all segments of society; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that this area of Texas State University has had a continual Indigenous presence since time immemorial, and that Indigenous people gathered at many local landmarks and left indelible marks on the history of our community; and

WHEREAS, Texas State University and the surrounding communities are built upon the ancestral homelands of the Indigenous Nations who utilized and cared for these lands for millennia; and

WHEREAS, we recognize and deeply values Indigenous Peoples’ contributions to our community, both historical and contemporary, in the areas of science, art and culture; and that those contributions are never forgotten; and
WHEREAS, as Bobcats, we join Hays County, Texas, other cities and states in setting aside this day to celebrate and honor the thriving, diverse cultures of the Indigenous peoples in the San Marcos area, and that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing and interconnected struggles of all Indigenous peoples’ locally and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, COREY BENBOW, Student Body President of Texas State University, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the bylaws of the Student Government of Texas State, and the Student Body, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2019, Indigenous Peoples Day.

[Signature]

Student Body President, Corey F. Benbow