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**A Resolution to be entitled "The Living Wage Act" requesting
Texas State raise the standard wage for Student Workers to a
living wage.**

WHEREAS: The average Texas State Student Worker makes between \$7.25 and \$10 an hour; and

WHEREAS: A Student Worker may not work more than 25 hours a week; and

WHEREAS: This translates to a maximum yearly income of between \$9,425 and \$13,000, however the majority of students make much less than that; and

WHEREAS: This means that all but the very highest paid student workers fall below the federal poverty line which is set at \$12,490 (The Balance, 2019) for a single person household; and

WHEREAS: The average price of rent in San Marcos, TX is \$1,461 monthly or \$17,532 yearly (RentCafe, 2019), meaning that the standard income for Student Workers is not even enough to pay the rent; and

WHEREAS: The wages Texas State provides its workers are quite literally starvation wages; and

WHEREAS: Over 40% of Texas State Students reported being food insecure in 2017 (Richardson, 2018); and

WHEREAS: Students are already paying in excess of \$20,000 a year in tuition and fees to attend Texas State; and

WHEREAS: Texas State is a campus that purports to serve first generation, non-traditional, military, minority, and working class students; and

WHEREAS: If students were paid at a starting rate of \$15 an hour their maximum yearly income would increase to \$19,500, which is above the poverty line and is adequate to cover the price of rent; and

WHEREAS: This would constitute a living wage and allow students to rely solely on their on campus job, rather than having to work two or more jobs to cover their expenses; and

WHEREAS: Texas State Student Government is dedicated to supporting and uplifting students; and

BE IT RESOLVED: Texas State will set a minimum wage for Student Workers at \$10 an hour effective at the beginning of the Spring 2020 Semester, commit to raising this to a \$15 an hour living wage by the beginning of the Fall 2020 Semester, peg this new minimum Student Worker wage to inflation, compel departments not to

downsize their workforce in response to this reasonable request;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This legislation shall be forwarded to the
Student Body President for further action.

Works Cited:

The Balance, "Federal Poverty Level Guidelines and Chart" 17

July 2019. <https://www.thebalance.com/federal-poverty-level-definition-guidelines-chart-3305843>

RentCafe, "Average Rent in San Marcos & Rent Prices by

Neighbourhood" <https://www.rentcafe.com/average-rent-market-trends/us/tx/san-marcos/>. Accessed 20 Aug. 2019

Richardson, Brittlin. "Students battle alarming food insecurity

rates" *University Star*, 21 Nov. 2018. <https://universitystar.com/27220/news/students-battle-alarming-food-insecurity-rates/>