



# A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

\_\_\_\_\_ in Student Government on \_\_\_\_\_ • \_\_\_\_\_ in The Senate of College Councils on  
\_\_\_\_\_ • \_\_\_\_\_ in Graduate Student Assembly on \_\_\_\_\_

## J.R. 21-11

### A Joint Resolution in Support of Students Fighting Climate Change Meeting with President Hartzell

*between*

**Student Government, Senate of College Councils, and Graduate Student Assembly**

#### Executive Summary

With the present threat of climate change and its negative impacts on the UT community, Students Fighting Climate Change (SFCC) has sought to address these issues by advocating for sustainable reform on campus. In previous years, SFCC has met with several leaders, from university administrators to policymakers in Austin City Hall or even the Texas Legislature, to encourage divestment from fossil fuels and non-renewable energy companies. In early October, SFCC was promised to speak with President Hartzell on the President's Student Advisory Committee (PSAC); however, they were removed from the agenda less than 48 hours before the student advisory meeting<sup>1</sup>. This legislation calls upon President Hartzell to meet with Students Fighting Climate Change and publicly acknowledge their demands and the climate crisis that is negatively affecting the community

#### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Why is this resolution necessary?**

**A:** The PSAC is an opportunity for President Hartzell to meet with students and stakeholders to discuss ways to improve the quality of life on the Forty Acres. As President of the University of Texas, President Hartzell is tasked with meeting students to improve living conditions in the community. SFCC has been advocating for divestment to prevent further irreparable and irreversible damages of climate change on the community; their demands and concerns deserve to be acknowledged by President Hartzell.

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<sup>1</sup><https://thedailytexan.com/2021/10/26/ut-environmental-advocacy-organization-demands-meeting-with-president-hartzell-to-discuss-climate-action-after-being-denied/>



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**Authors:** CHAIR JEROLD HOLMAN (*Governmental Affairs Committee, Student Government*), CHAIR AMANDA GARICA (*Covid-19 Committee, Student Government; Community Advocate Coordinator, Senate of College Councils*), SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE BRAXDON CANNON (*Rules and Regulations Committee, Student Government*)

**Sponsors:** KERRY MACKENZIE (*former Speaker of the 114th Assembly, Student Government; PSAC Student Representative*), LELAND MURPHY (*Internal Director, Senate of College Councils*), MANTRA DAVE (*Undergraduate Research Co-Chair, Senate of College Councils; Deputy Administrative Director, Student Government*), SHUBHI NANDA (*Outreach Coordinator, Senate of College Councils*), REPRESENTATIVE EVA KAHN (*Undergraduate Studies, Student Government*), RAHUL SHAH (*Engagement and Outreach Co-Chair, Senate of College Councils*), REPRESENTATIVE ARIANA MORALES (*Transfer-Representative, Student Government*), JOSEPH KUDLER (*Hook The Vote Co-Director, Student Government*)

**WHEREAS**, Student Government, Senate of College Councils, and the Graduate Student Assembly serve as the official voices of students at the University of Texas at Austin;  
and,

**WHEREAS**, The President's Student Advisory Committee (PSAC) "consults with the president of The University of Texas at Austin on matters of importance and concern to students and serves as the principal conduit of communication between students and the president"<sup>2</sup>; and,

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<sup>2</sup> <https://president.utexas.edu/presidents-student-advisory-committee>

**WHEREAS,** Students Fighting Climate Change (SFCC) is an “organization focused on educating [the UT] community about the impacts of climate change”; and,

**WHEREAS,** SFCC had initially been placed on the PSAC agenda to discuss the climate crisis and the broader UT System fossil fuel and nonrenewable investments; and,

**WHEREAS,** President Hartzell has committed to “[doing his best] to lead UT to amplify its impact on every life it touches”<sup>3</sup>; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That President Hartzell meets with Students Fighting Climate Change through the President’s Student Advisory Committee or in a separate individual meeting; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That this meeting between SFCC and the PSAC lasts a minimum of one hour; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That President Hartzell acknowledges the work and efforts SFCC has done for the community; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the Student Government, Senate of College Councils, and the Graduate Student Assembly, officially acknowledges the work and efforts SFCC has done by advocating for sustainable reforms for the student body; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED** That this joint resolution between Student Government, The Senate of College Councils, and Graduate Student Assembly be sent to the Office of President Jay Hartzell, the Office of the Dean of Students Soncia Reagins-Lilly, The Daily Texan, Austin American-Statesman, Austin Chronicle, and The Texas Tribune.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://president.utexas.edu/messages-speeches-2021/2021-presidential-inauguration-and-state-university-address>