The Graduate Student Assembly
The University of Texas at Austin

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Resolution: G.R. 17 (F) 5 — In support of the Dream Act of 2017

WHEREAS (1): President Trump has announced a plan to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which allowed individuals who were brought without documentation to the United States as children to be able to work and study without being deported. The administration has given congress six months for alternative actions to be proposed;¹ and,

WHEREAS (2): University of Texas at Austin President, Gregory L. Fenves, along with hundreds of University Presidents advocated to maintain DACA in order to continue providing opportunities to young adults who have received an education in Texas and throughout the nation; and,

WHEREAS (3): The United States Senate has introduced the Dream Act of 2017 to continue the protection of DACA recipients, by “[granting] lawful permanent resident status on a conditional basis;²” and,

WHEREAS (4): Nearly 800,000 young adult immigrants are protected under DACA with an estimated 1.9 million people eligible for work and education,³ and,

WHEREAS (5): In the Core Values of the University of Texas at Austin, we state, “Many options, diverse people and opportunities, one university.”⁴ The members of our student body who have been here, living and learning since childhood, belong in our community at UT, in Texas, and in the United States, and,

WHEREAS (6): The repeal of DACA represents an immediate threat to the UT graduate student body, their ability to continue their studies, and their wellbeing, now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT (1): The GSA supports the approval of the new DREAM act that provides DACA students a pathway to citizenship and encourages students at UT to contact their representatives to express their support as well; and,

⁴ Mission & Values. https://www.utexas.edu/about/mission-and-values
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (2): The GSA calls upon the UT administration to continue advocating for long-term legislative solutions for these affected immigrants, and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (3): Copies of this bill shall be delivered to the Texas Board of Regents, the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the President, the Office of Executive Vice President and Provost, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Department of Diversity and Community Engagement, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of Admissions, the Office of the Vice President of Legal Affairs, The Austin American Statesman, The Texas Tribune, and The Daily Texan.

PASSED by the GSA General Assembly, September 27, 2017

Signature of the GSA President

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