GA 102

This Resolution Shall Henceforth Be Known As the “Denouncement of the gag order for Government agencies related to research on climate change”

PURPOSE

To recommend the gag order placed on Agencies within the Executive Branch of the United States be removed

WHEREAS: Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution of The University of Texas at San Antonio’s Student Government Association reads: “The duties and responsibilities of the SGA General Assembly shall be: To review, discuss, consider, and take any necessary action through legislation on all issues which concern the campus or students.”; and,

WHEREAS: Research for many institutions including universities and organizations will be negatively impacted as they rely on the critical data that is provided by the Environmental Protection Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, and Department of the Interior. and,

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the United States allows for the free expression of ideas even for public employees. and,

WHEREAS: In the case Pickering v Board of Education, the court found that that a public employee’s statements on a matter of public concern could not be the basis for discharge. and,

WHEREAS: The 1996 Supreme Court case Reno v ACLU unanimously extended First Amendment rights to written, visual, and spoken expression posted on the internet. and,

WHEREAS: By not allowing these agencies to provide accurate information, it will lead to the spared of misinformation due to the lack of trusted sources. and,

WHEREAS: By censuring theses agencies, the public is missing critical information that allows them to make informed decisions on important issues. and,
WHEREAS: It is our duty, according to, Article I: Section 2: clause 6: of the constitution, to promote the exchange of information, ideas, and opinions throughout the university community.

and,

WHEREAS: The University of Texas at San Antonio dedicates itself to promoting environmental literacy.

and,

WHEREAS: The University of Texas at San Antonio has committed itself to the exploration of research and ideas in all endeavors, and in doing so requires accurate information from the government agencies affected by the gag order.

and,

WHEREAS: The Roadrunner Creed Sates that, “As A Roadrunner, I will support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.”

and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Student Government Association and the University of Texas at San Antonio should advocate for the freedom of speech of the Environmental Protection Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, and Department of the Interior.

Andrew Hubbard  
President of Student Government Association  
The University of Texas at San Antonio