

**The Graduate Student Assembly
The University of Texas at Austin**

Authors: Kathryn Abercrombie, GSA Legislative Affairs Director
Michael Lee, Senate of College Councils Policy Drafting Chair

Sponsors: Samantha Fuchs, GSA President
Payton Anderson, GSA Vice President
Lucy Blevins, GSA Representative (Social Work)

Resolution: J.B. 19 (S) 1 – Amendment to GSA Bylaws to Formalize the Joint Resolution Committee

Executive Summary: The Joint Resolution (JR) Committee is made up of representatives of the three University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) Legislative Student Organizations (LSOs). The three LSOs are the Graduate Student Assembly, the Senate of College Councils (Senate), and the Student Government (SG). The JR Committee was established in Fall 2018 and met monthly throughout the academic year to produce legislation that at least two of the three LSOs would bring to their respective assemblies to benefit the greater UT Austin student body. As the JR Committee is a new addition to LSO procedures, recognition of its existence and operations do not exist in Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) Bylaws. This Joint Bill seeks to amend GSA Bylaws to add the JR Committee as a recognized committee associated with our Assembly to ensure the Committee's sustainability year over year. This same codification will occur within the governing documents of SG and Senate.

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WHEREAS (1): University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) has three Legislative Student Organizations (LSOs): Graduate Student Assembly (GSA), Senate of College Councils (Senate), and Student Government (SG). Each LSO has its own Constitution and Bylaws detailing the responsibilities and procedures of its members; and,

WHEREAS (2): The Joint Resolution (JR) committee began meeting in Fall 2018 with representation from each LSO to develop coordinated legislation to benefit all UT Austin students. Legislation resulting from the JR Committee must be heard and considered by at least two of the three LSOs to be considered joint; and,

WHEREAS (3): The Constitution and Bylaws of each LSO, including the GSA, does not reflect the operations or functions of the JR Committee as it is an addition to LSO procedures as of Fall 2018; and,

WHEREAS (4): To ensure sustainability of the JR Committee, the GSA's Bylaws must recognize the JR Committee as a permanent standing committee to support collaboration between the LSOs that serve all UT Austin students. Any LSO that does not adopt the JR Committee's operations and procedures in its bylaws forfeits their representation on the JR Committee until resolved; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT (1): The GSA adopt the attached changes to GSA Bylaws that reflect the operations and procedures of the JR Committee; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (2): This bill, upon passage, will be submitted to the Joint Resolution Committee, Senate of College Councils, Student Government, Dean of the Graduate School, and the Vice President for Student Affairs at UT Austin.

PASSED by the GSA Assembly on April 10, 2019.

Signature of the GSA President: *SJ*