

# University Senate Action

On Thursday, 4-21-2016, the Temple Faculty Senate Steering Committee presented the following resolution to the Temple University Senate. This resolution had been brought to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee by the Senate's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Committee.

The University Senate approved it unanimously.

Whereas: The purpose of a just society is to promote well-being among its citizens while also advocating for a position of inclusion and empowerment; and

Whereas: Recent legislative measures in the states of North Carolina and Mississippi are targeting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community, effectively allowing for discrimination against the LGBT community in the public sphere; and

Whereas: Academic institutions have a responsibility to ensure that all members of a university community are dealt with in a civil and decorous manner; and

Whereas: Current anti-LGBT legislative measures in the States of North Carolina and Mississippi are antithetical to the principles of higher education; and

Whereas: These measures can effectively legitimate discrimination against the LGBT population on campuses of higher education; and

Whereas: Students, faculty, and staff are viable and important members of a community that deserve to be regarded with the same civil rights and safety of other citizens; and

Whereas: The current legislation of North Carolina and Mississippi prohibits the free and safe expression of identity related to sexual orientation and gender identity; and

Whereas: These measures remove the agency of individual communities to enact local legislation; and

Whereas: Communities of scholars are concerned with the impact of this legislation on the experience of campus life; and

Whereas: Institutions within these states, including Duke University, several cultural venues, and international governmental bodies have raised ongoing concerns with the impact of these acts of legislation; so

THEREFORE: On behalf of the Temple University's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Committee, and the Temple University Faculty Senate Steering Committee, and the University Faculty Senate, we stand in solidarity with other academic, civic, and corporate organizations against House Bill 2 of The State of North Carolina and House Bill 1523 of the State of Mississippi