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A Resolution -

To be entitled "The Affordable Homework Resolution" requesting Texas State University institute a policy disallowing faculty from making online textbook or homework access codes mandatory for the completion of a course.

WHEREAS: The Student Government has made it a goal to provide affordable and free textbooks to students, citing increased academic performance for those who purchase textbooks; and

WHEREAS: The current plan would certainly help students in classes that use traditional textbooks, however an increasing number of classes are requiring students to purchase costly access codes in order to complete homework, quizzes, and even tests; and

WHEREAS: These codes are unique to one student, cannot be shared, borrowed, or resold, and expire after a certain amount of time, usually one year; and

WHEREAS: This has the effect of preventing students from using cost-saving measures to purchase textbooks, forcing them to pay full price for books that they may hardly use and an online service that is usually unintuitive, cumbersome, and is limiting for students who do not have ready access to a computer; and

WHEREAS: While professors should be given autonomy to teach their classes their own way, these codes do not substantially differentiate professors from each other and in fact have the opposite effect of standardizing courses; and

WHEREAS: Texas State University's online service (TRACs as of the writing of this resolution, but it is planned to be changed over to Canvas) offers a wide array of built in homework and quiz modules that could easily be used in place of online textbook codes; and

WHEREAS: Most students express dissatisfaction with these online services and do not find them worth the high price point; and

WHEREAS: It is within the power of Texas State University to set a policy disallowing mandatory access codes for classes; and

WHEREAS: Student Government's position is that students should have more options for purchasing textbooks and that they should be affordable; and

BE IT RESOLVED: The University will institute a policy disallowing professors from mandating online access codes in their courses, codes may be "recommended" or used for extra credit but

they may not be considered necessary to obtain an A in the class,
and this policy will be put in place by the beginning of the Fall
2020 semester, however earlier is advised; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This legislation shall be forwarded to
the Student Body President for further action.