(Stating the sentiments of the TTUHSC Student Senate regarding a proposal for HSC to consider alternative options for healthcare insurance plans for students.)

WHEREAS, the current Student Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is networked through Aetna and offers one health insurance plan for students to purchase for coverage while in school at TTUHSC; and,

WHEREAS, the current healthcare plan remains as much as $300 per month with high copays and is expensive for all students, especially those undergoing a qualifying life event; and,

WHEREAS, copays are higher for the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) at $50 compared to the TTUHSC Medical Service Fee copay at $10, which incentivizes students to use these clinics; and,

WHEREAS, often fellow classmates and teaching faculty work in these same clinics, which poses an issue with privacy and separation of health information from their education and professional development; and,

WHEREAS, this may make students feel uncomfortable receiving care from TTUHSC clinics causing them to delay seeking care or push them towards paying higher copays to see a provider at a non-affiliated clinic in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the current plan only offers a package deal of a spring and/or summer package that may extend past graduation dates requiring some students to pay for months of health insurance they may not need when they have moved on to their jobs after graduation; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center propose that alternative options be offered for student health insurance plans and examples of accepted alternative options be made available to students; and therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded and sent to Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D., President of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; Darrin D’Agostino, DO, MPH, MBA, Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Erin Justyna, Ph.D., Associate Provost for Student Affairs, Keri Shipllet, MS, Director of Student Life, Darrell Edwards, CIC, CSRM, CRIS, Managing Director & Chief Risk Officer of the Office of Risk Management for The Texas Tech University System; Arianna Flores, Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Toreador; and to the students of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.