WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee (UWM) is one of the top 50 LGBT+ universities in the United States.¹

WHEREAS, UWM is only one of two institutions in the State of Wisconsin to receive this accreditation.

WHEREAS, the Student Association (SA) advocates for LGBT+ rights and works to create a safe and welcoming environment for all students.

WHEREAS, the Westboro Baptist Church (WBC), which is registered as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center², engaged in its First Amendment right to assemble on the UWM campus on Oct. 20, 2016, and demonstrated hateful and violent rhetoric against the LGBT+ community.

WHEREAS, other groups may come to campus and engage in similar hateful rhetoric.

WHEREAS, the SA does not wish to deny the right of any groups to come to campus and exercise their First Amendment constitutional right to assemble and freedom of speech, but denounces any rhetoric targeted against the LGBT+ community and their rights.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the SA reaffirms its beliefs of LGBT+ inclusion and fellowship.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Student Association of the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee condemns the offensive anti-LGBT+ rhetoric that the WBC and other groups openly endorse.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; that this resolution be forwarded to the LGBT+ Resource Center, the Inclusive Excellence Center, Dean of Students Timothy Gordon, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs James Hill, Chancellor Mark Mone and the UWM Student Body.

Mijke Sportiello
Student Association President

Date  11/6/16  AYE  27  NAY


Legislative History
October 24, 2016 – Introduced by Senator Benjamin Gerard. Sitting in Committee (Student Life Improvement Committee)