

A Resolution Regarding Senate Bill S886

WHEREAS major professional organizations including the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the American Political Science Association, the National Coalition for History, the Federation of American Scientists among others have recently gone on record as opposing implementation of Executive Order 13233 through both legal action and political action, and

WHEREAS a version of Senate Bill S886 (the Presidential Records Act amendment) introduced by Senator Jeff Bingaman has passed the House of Representatives and is being held up in the United States Senate by a single Senator with a threat to filibuster, and

WHEREAS both versions of this bill protect national security information, documents pertaining to law enforcement and documents pertaining to the deliberative processes in the Executive Department, and

WHEREAS the free and open availability of information concerning the governance of the United States is in the best interests of all of the citizens of a democracy,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of North Texas joins with other professional groups both in and out of the State of Texas in opposing Executive Order 13233 and supports the passage of Senate Bill S886 and requests the Chair of the UNT Faculty Senate to communicate with U. S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senators Kay Bailey Hutchinson and John Cornyn of Texas to bring Senate Bill S886 to a vote in the US Senate and urges UNT Chancellor Lee Jackson and UNT President Gretchen Bataille and the UNT Board of Regents to join with us in calling for the repeal of Executive Order 13233.