



## Carbon Neutrality Fee Bill F2016-B3

**WHEREAS**, in order for the State of Texas to stay nationally competitive in its pursuit of a future dominated by renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of North Texas has been a recognized leader in environmental research for more than 77 years and has an academic tradition of green and energy-efficient programs to conserve water and energy; and

**WHEREAS**, The University of North Texas was the first large public institution in Texas to sign the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment; and

**WHEREAS**, air pollution in the region consistently exceeds national air quality standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, emissions from the municipally owned quick-start natural gas generator will negatively impact the air quality of university students; and

**WHEREAS**, the currently established We Mean Green student environmental service fee, as outlined by Texas House Bill 3353, would be fully depleted by an annual university-wide purchase of renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no ratified Texas Legislature Bill that allows universities to charge their students a fee to purchase renewable energy credits or carbon offsets;

**LET IT BE RESOLVED**, a referendum be scheduled for the Fall 2016 Election to assess the Student Body's interest in a Carbon Neutrality Fee.

“Do you authorize the University of North Texas to charge the Student Body a fee not to exceed \$1/hour each semester for the purpose of fully neutralizing the University's carbon footprint through the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits and/or verified carbon offsets?”

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Adam Miller**

*Senator, College of Engineering*

**Tiffany Miller**

*Senator, College of Arts & Sciences*

**Cam Johnson**

*Senator, College of Arts & Sciences*

**Mercedes Mercado**

*Senator, College of Education*

**Teresa Aguayo**

*Senator, College of Business*

**Laura Sanders**

*Senator, Colleges of Public Administration & Community Service*

**Rishi Talati**

*Senator, Texas Academy of Math & Science*

**Nilanjana Nair**

*University of North Texas Student Government Freshman Intern*

---

In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Student Government Association has approved this document and is referred to the office of the President.

---

*Speaker of the Senate*

**Presidential Action:**

- Vetoed
- Approved

---

*President of the Student Government Association*

---

*Vice President of Student Affairs*

---

*Date*

---

*Date*

---

*Date*

