



**STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION**

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Student Senate**

*of the*

**East Tennessee State University**

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**SSR-20-006**

Executive Vice President Seth Manning presents the following legislation to the East Tennessee State University Student Government Association.

**A resolution that condemns Milligan University for its abhorrent stance toward its handling of LGBT issues and calls on the University leadership to cut select partnerships including but not limited to athletics events and use of University monies that are paid to Milligan.**

**WHEREAS**, Milligan University recently forced a professor to either resign or renounce their “lifestyle” based on that professor’s sexual orientation

**WHEREAS**, sexuality, like race or disability status, is not a lifestyle choice and therefore any action taken against an individual of such class is a direct attack on their legitimacy as an individual to exist as a person

**WHEREAS**, ETSU has a direct moral and legal obligation to protect all students and the University Mission and Values Statement clearly states “PEOPLE come first, are treated with dignity and respect, and are encouraged to achieve their full potential; RELATIONSHIPS are built on honesty, integrity, and trust; DIVERSITY of people and thought is respected...”

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2020-21 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE OF THE EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Student Government Association officially condemns Milligan University’s recent actions to force the resignation of a professor on the basis of their sexual orientation as immoral, cowardly, an affront to human rights and dignity, and counter to the revered American values of hard work, equal rights, and respect.

**Section 2.** This resolution calls on the University to end all athletics scheduling, abandon pursuit of future academic agreements, and terminate partnerships in which University monies would be paid to Milligan or other universities with such discriminatory policies and procedures, whether towards sexuality, gender identity, race, age, religion, disability status, or sex of an individual.

**Section 3.** As this resolution’s terms have the potential to encompass several colleges and universities, we request that immediate action within

reason be taken but also that a University committee be formed to analyze where further action can be pursued.

**Section 4.** This resolution further calls on the University to look to its Mission and Values Statements when creating or renewing any partnerships with organizations, whether other colleges, businesses, or otherwise and to strongly consider disaffiliation when those organizations' values fall into conflict with the University's beliefs.