

BILL#: SEN-01-17
TITLE: Equal Opportunity Textbook Act
SPONSOR: Grant Peterson, West Area (gpeter11@vols.utk.edu)
DATE: September 20th, 2016

Whereas, Open Education Resources, or OERs, are defined as teaching, learning, and research resources that are free of cost and access barriers, and

Whereas, the University of Tennessee is a member of the Open Textbook Network, giving access to open educational resources under a creative commons license while also allowing faculty of the University of Tennessee to add materials to this database, and

Whereas, Texas A&M under its SGA adopted a similar policy that called for three awards to be given out annually to incentivize the use and promulgation of open education resources on its campus, and,

Whereas, according to UT Libraries, 65% of students have chosen not to purchase textbooks as a result of the cost which has increased by 82% over the last decade, and

Whereas, many faculty do not use open education resources from lack of knowledge on the resources available and the lack of incentive, and

Whereas, students and faculty benefit fiscally and academically from use of open education resources, and

Be it hereby resolved, that the Student Senate calls for the University of Tennessee to create an official award that recognizes faculty for the best use and/or creation of open education resources.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE STUDENT SENATE

Seconded by

VOTE for _____ against _____ abstentions _____

ACTION TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Signature _____

Date _____

ACTION TAKEN BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Signature _____

Date _____