**WHEREAS** Men’s Basketball team at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) has voiced their position and engaged in a peaceful civic declaration against prejudice and social injustice on February 15, 2021;

**WHEREAS** we applaud our students’ resolve to take a stand against all forms of prejudice, discrimination, and social injustice; and recognize that their voices should be respectfully heard and acknowledged as valued members of our deliberative democracy;

**WHEREAS** we value the open exchange of thoughts and ideas, even if different from our individual ones;

**WHEREAS** ETSU values and fosters diversity of people and thought in our region;

**WHEREAS** the special status of ETSU as a public university designates it as an institution having an exceptional responsibility to protect the free and unfettered exercise of the right to freedom of speech in all its forms;

**WHEREAS** silencing, ignoring, or otherwise minimizing student peaceful action and civic engagement conflicts with ETSU’s commitment to affirm the contributions of diverse peoples, cultures, and thought to intellectual, social, and economic development;

**RESOLVED,** that the Faculty Senate reaffirms ETSU’s values and place as a safe harbor for students, faculty, and staff and as such we will set the example for Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice and recommends that ETSU support students as they serve as advocates for social justice in our local and national communities.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Second by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Endorsed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 Mr. Stephen Hendrix, MBA President, ETSU Faculty Senate