Whereas: The Associated Students of the University of New Mexico and the Graduate and Professional Student Association are the representative and student voice for all students at the university.

Whereas: The Student Governing bodies of the University of New Mexico was established to represent student concerns in all University wide matters.

Whereas: The Student Veterans of UNM are the advocates for the student veteran community on campus.

Whereas: The student veteran population at UNM is comprised of self-identified 858 utilizing the Veteran Resource Center services. 1200 self-identified on the Enrollment Management banner system.

Whereas: The Student Veteran graduation rate 8.5% is well below the 30% graduation rate of the rest of the university population.

Whereas: The Student Veteran leadership team have written the top Research and Public Service Proposal: Veteran Student Services for the UNM.

Whereas: The administration has decided to take the student voice out of the RPSP and reassign it to the Veteran Resource Center.

Whereas: Currently the RPSP is under review with the NM Higher Education Department waiting for approval during the 2019 NM Legislative session.

Whereas: The SVUNM participation and initiation of this RPSP proposal was to promote collaboration between the students and administration to ensure diversity and inclusion for our protected class.

Whereas: This decision by the administration took away the opportunity for student veterans to engage our community and educate our legislators about our student veteran community.

Whereas: We are asking GPSA to support student veterans in their desire to become more engaged in the administration process that impact their educational success.

Therefore: Be it resolved that GPSA supports student veterans at UNM and their families in their pathways to their degrees.

Therefore: Be it also resolved that GPSA supports student veterans and other student groups in calling upon the UNM administration and the Veteran Resource Center to open dialogue and stand strong in unity with the student veteran community.

Therefore: Be it also resolved that GPSA recognize that the student veteran community is not equally treated culturally or structurally as other cultural groups; student veterans do not have either our own cultural center on par with El Centro de La Raza and others.

Therefore: Let it be further resolved that GPSA support Student Veterans and other student groups in encouraging collaboration and focus on ensuring transition of all student veterans within our local and UNM community.

Therefore: Let it be resolved that GPSA calls upon the UNM President and other officials to stand with our student veterans and not silence their voice in administrative process and stop the alienation of this community.

Therefore: Let it further be resolved that GPSA collaborate with the Diversity and Inclusion committee to work with actual student veterans to create administrative relief of the barriers that they encounter.

Therefore: Let it be finally resolved that GPSA stands with and supports the Student Veterans of UNM and other student groups who will be forwarded a copy of this resolution. These groups include UNM Presidents Office, UNM Board of Regents, UNM Provost Office, UNM Student Affairs, UNM Dean of Students Office, UNM Diversity and Inclusion Office, UNM Governmental Affairs, UNM Office of Equal Opportunity, New Mexico Governors, New Mexico Congressional Offices, New Mexico state and local representatives’ offices, Albuquerque’s Mayors Office and the local Department of Veteran Affairs Office.
Student Veterans of UNM
Veteran Student Services Resolution

Signed at the GPSA Counsel Meeting, This __________ day of __________, __________.

Witness my hand:

_______________________________
James Kaminski
GPSA Counsel Chair

Attest,

_______________________________
Suraj Ghimire
GPSA Counsel Recorder