

RESOLUTION NO. 20150312-

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2014, forty-three students from the rural teachers' college of Ayotzinapa disappeared from Iguala, a Mexican town in the state of Guerrero; and,

WHEREAS, Mexico's Attorney General, Jesus Murillo Karam, declared that Iguala's municipal police kidnapped the students and handed them over to the Guerreros Unidos drug cartel, who allegedly had them executed, while the parents maintain the students are alive until presented with concrete proof to support the government's claims; and

WHEREAS, the Ayotzinapa students were mostly youth from poor, rural families who were training to become teachers and serve the indigenous and disadvantaged in their community; and

WHEREAS, the recent events in Guerrero represent human rights violations and have resulted in international outcry; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that 25,000 to 26,000 people have disappeared in Mexico since 2006; and

WHEREAS, Austin is a center of academic learning and advancement, and our community values the safety and freedom of students here and across the world; and

WHEREAS, parents of the Ayotzinapa students will visit Austin beginning on March 18th, 2015 as a part of a caravan that will visit several cities in the United States to seek justice for their missing sons; and

WHEREAS, the City Council offers its support to all those in Mexico and the world working for human rights and justice against corruption and violence;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council formally expresses their support for the relatives', students', and the greater public's demand for an independent international investigation on the events that happened in Iguala in accordance with international standards of justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Consulate General of Mexico in Austin, Austin's state legislative representatives, and Austin's congressional representatives.

ADOPTED: March 12, 2015

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk