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COALITION STATEMENT ON INAUGURATION OF UT AUSTIN PRESIDENT FENVES

AUSTIN—The Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education today issued the following statement on the occasion of the inauguration of Gregory L. Fenves as the president of The University of Texas at Austin:

“Congratulations to Greg Fenves on his inauguration as the 29th president of The University of Texas at Austin. In his short tenure he has already proven to be a steady, confident and thoughtful leader who will continue to steer The University forward as a leading national teaching and research institution.

“Today marks an important day for higher education in Texas. The transition of sound leadership at UT Austin epitomizes stability and progress at The University, and for our higher education system overall. The Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education formed more than four years ago at a tumultuous time for higher education in Texas. As a bipartisan group of concerned alumni representing our state’s leading public institutions, we stood firmly with the university leaders who have promoted excellence and innovation at our institutions, and have exposed and spoken out against political interference in the governance of our universities.

“This event heralds an important new chapter for UT Austin and for public higher education in Texas. With Governor Abbott’s continued leadership and focus on higher education, and university leaders like President Fenves at UT Austin and President Young at Texas A&M at the helm of our state’s leading Tier One institutions, the future remains bright for our students, our economy and our state.”

About the Coalition

The Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education is a bipartisan group of concerned Texans who organized to publicly support and promote excellence in public higher education, and oppose policies and recommendations that are destructive to its quality and long-term sustainability. Our group includes former university presidents, chancellors and regents, as well as numerous business leaders, philanthropists and more than 400 prominent and engaged Texans. Formed in 2011, in response to a growing concern over recommendations being floated that could have long-term damaging effects on our institutions of higher learning, the Coalition hopes to advance a thoughtful, constructive and transparent dialogue around higher education in Texas, seeking to improve the quality educational opportunities for all Texans.

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For more information on the Coalition and information on higher education in Texas, please visit:
www.TexasEducationExcellence.org