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## **Statement on Trump Supporters Storming the US Capitol**

**Austin, Texas** - Today in Washington D.C., a day when the electoral victory of President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris would be certified by a joint session of Congress, supporters of President Trump stormed the US Capitol building, putting US lawmakers and staffers in danger in an attempt to stop the democratic process. We condemn the violence that is occurring at the US Capitol.

*University Democrats issued the following statement:* 

"Today we have witnessed the end state of a broken political system that the next generation will not accept. We have seen how the toxic, conspiracy-filled vitriolic approach Trump has taken to politics manifests in real world harm. We also know that Trump did not act alone. The GOP at all levels of government must reckon with the Pandora's box they have opened because they are complicit in this foundation shattering act of self-interested domestic terrorism. We condemn in the harshest terms the actions and response of Trump and his GOP allies.

As President-Elect Biden reminded us, the scenes of chaos at the capitol do not represent the true America. That is the work of a small number of extremists. But that is the road Trump's rhetoric leads people down. We've seen all too often this radicalization with people in our own lives. Today was a painful reminder of where that radicalization leads

It can be easy, when the stakes are low and the consequences non-obvious, to unthinkingly follow a harmful ideology. We urge everyone across the nation, including our community here in Austin, to examine your beliefs. To look at what is happening in Washington and ask yourself if this is truly what you want. We look forward to moving on on January 20th when Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are sworn into office and the Democratic-Controlled House of Representatives and newly Democratic Majority Senate are able to get to work putting this country on the path of healing."