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**Statement from Brian J. Haley, First Student Regent Named by Governor
Perry to the University of Texas System Board of Regents**

AUSTIN - For over 30 years, students across our great state have tirelessly worked to put a student on their Universities' Board of Regents. Today, we recognize and congratulate everyone who contributed to this effort. I am honored and privileged to serve as the first student on the University Of Texas System Board Of Regents. I am aware of the magnitude and responsibility that accompanies this opportunity and it is with humility and determination that I begin my tenure.

I would like to sincerely thank Governor Perry for putting his trust in me to serve. I look forward to working with the Governor, his staff, and the other members of the Board over the coming year to promote and enhance higher education in Texas.

The people of Texas entrust in every Regent the responsibility to preserve and enhance their institutions of higher learning. Over the past 130 years the University of Texas System has established itself as a leader in higher education. With over 184,000 students, more than 75,000 faculty and staff members and 15 institutions, it continues to give back immeasurable knowledge to our society and unprecedented capital to our state. Whether you are a student in El Paso, a physician in Tyler, a professor in San Antonio, or an administrator in Arlington each member of the University of Texas community should be proud of our accomplishments.

As we embark on a new chapter in the UT System's history, one where students directly affect all levels of the decision making process, it is important to take a moment and recognize the challenges before us. Texas's ability to succeed on the global level is directly related to its ability to educate. As the forces of globalization shrink our world, from societies separated by oceans and languages evolving into one global community, education becomes increasingly important. Today, I join with the other members of the Board of Regents, to ensure that the University of Texas System continues to produce innovative leaders and dynamic thinkers who are prepared to accomplish mankind's greatest achievements.

I am excited about the potential of this new position and I am truly honored by the opportunity to serve the University of Texas System community and the great people of Texas.

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