



110th STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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A.B. 13

Amending the Constitution of Student Government to Create a Transfer Student Representative

IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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Sponsors: REPRESENTATIVE HOLDEN HOPKINS (*First-Year*), AND SPEAKER SANTIAGO ROSALES (*Student Government Assembly*)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

- SEC 1: Amend Article IV, Section 4 in the Student Government Constitution as follows shown on the addendum below.
- SEC 2: This bill shall be sent to the Dean of Students, the Deputy Advisory to the Dean of Students and the Vice President of Student Affairs. The ballot for the Spring 2017 Campus-Wide elections shall include this constitutional change so that students may vote this question.
- SEC 3: The Speaker shall update the Student Government Constitution and provide an electronic copy to the Communications Director, who shall update the SG website accordingly.

- Sec. 4.2 COMPOSITION OF THE ASSEMBLY. The legislative branch shall be comprised of the Student Government Assembly which shall be made up of college and school, **Transfer**, University-wide, at-large graduate, and first-year representatives.
- Sec. 4.3 SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY. The Assembly shall be chaired by the Speaker of the Assembly, elected from the membership of the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.4 LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE OF THE ASSEMBLY. The Assembly Board shall serve as the leadership committee of the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.5 COMPOSITION OF THE ASSEMBLY BOARD. Standing members of the Assembly Board shall include the Speaker of the Assembly, who shall chair the board, and the chairs of the standing committees of the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.6 DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. The total number of college and school representatives shall be annually determined proportionally to the total number of students enrolled in each college at The University of Texas at Austin. The total number of college and school representatives shall be determined by the Speaker of the Assembly based upon the enrollment data available from the enrollment figures from the previous fall semester of each school year as published in the annual Statistical Handbook by the University's Office of Information Management and Analysis.
- Sec. 4.7 STATISTICALLY PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION OF COLLEGE AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. Each college and school shall have a number of apportioned representatives to be elected by and charged with representing the students of that college or school. The representatives will serve for one-year terms based upon the proportion of the student body enrolled in the respective college or school. The proportion of representation among the college and school representatives of the Assembly for the respective college or school should be as equal as possible to the proportion of the student body enrolled in the respective college or school (including graduate-only, undergraduate-only, or mixed colleges).
- Sec. 4.8 MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS IN-RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY FOR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. Representatives from the colleges and schools must have completed a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours if an undergraduate student or nine (9) hours if a graduate student in-residence at the University.

- Sec. 4.9 ENROLLMENT IN COLLEGE OR SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY FOR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. Representatives must be enrolled in the college or school that they represent while filing and while holding office.
- Sec. 4.10 DETERMINING APPORTIONMENT OF COLLEGE AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. The Speaker of the Assembly shall determine the number of electable seats for each college and school based upon the enrollment data available from the enrollment figures from the previous year of each school year as published in the annual Statistical Handbook by the University's Office of Information Management and Analysis.
- Sec. 4.11 UNIVERSITY-WIDE REPRESENTATIVES. Eight (8) University-wide representatives shall be elected at-large by the student body and serve one-year terms in the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.12 MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS IN-RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY FOR UNIVERSITY-WIDE REPRESENTATIVES. University-wide representatives must have completed a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours if an undergraduate student or nine (9) hours if a graduate student in-residence at the University.
- Sec. 4.13 TRANSFER REPRESENTATIVES. Two (2) Transfer representatives shall be elected from the undergraduate transfer student body, as defined by the Office of the Registrar, and serve one-year terms in the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.14 MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS ELIGIBILITY FOR TRANSFER REPRESENTATIVES. Transfer representatives must have completed a minimum of thirty (30) semester hours at a previous institution of higher-education.
- Sec. 4.15 AT-LARGE GRADUATE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES. Two (2) representatives shall be elected from the entire graduate school class at-large and serve one year terms in the Assembly.
- Sec. 4.16 MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS IN-RESIDENCE ELIBILITY FOR AT-LARGE GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES. At-large graduate representatives must have completed a minimum of nine (9) semester hours in-residence at the University.
- Sec. 4.17 FIRST-YEAR REPRESENTATIVES. Two (2) representatives shall be elected from the incoming class of undergraduate first-year students (including first-year freshmen and undergraduate transfer students to the University as so defined by the Office of the Registrar)

and serve one year terms in the Assembly.

Sec. 4.18 PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTABLE SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY. The Speaker of the Assembly shall submit the number of electable seats within the Assembly (including University at-large seats) to the Editor of The Daily Texan at least four (4) weeks prior to the spring election.

Sec. 4.19 SPRING-ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES' TERMS OF OFFICE. Representatives from the colleges and schools and University-wide representatives and Transfer shall begin their terms at noon on the first Tuesday of April and end the following first Tuesday of April.

Sec. 4.20 FIRST-YEAR REPRESENTATIVES' TERMS OF OFFICE. First-year representatives shall begin their terms at noon on the first Tuesday of October and end the following first Tuesday of April.

Sec. 4.21 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY. Ex-officio members of the Assembly include all members of the executive branch, judicial branch, and external appointments. Ex-officio members also include the presidents of the Senate of College Councils, the Graduate Student Assembly, and the Campus Events and Entertainment.

Sec. 4.22 NAMING OF ADDITIONAL EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY. The Assembly may also name additional ex-officio members outside of those listed within this Constitution.

Sec. 4.23 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY TERMS' OF OFFICE. Ex-officio members of the Assembly shall serve one-year terms, to begin from the time they are officially recognized as such, and shall serve without a vote in the Assembly.

Sec. 4.24 DUTIES, POWERS, AND AUTHORITY OF THE ASSEMBLY. The Student Government Assembly shall possess the following duties, powers, and authorities:

- (a) The Assembly shall pass legislation to represent the official voice of the student body and define official Student Government policies, positions, and stances.
- (b) The Assembly, as a whole, shall represent and advocate on behalf of all students at the University before any and all audiences including, but not limited to, the administration of The University of Texas at Austin, the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System, the City of Austin, and the Texas Legislature.
- (c) The budget of the Student Government must be presented to and approved by the Assembly.

- (d) The Assembly shall be responsible for the proper and prudent distribution of Student Government funds.
- (e) The Assembly shall maintain funds for distribution to student organizations, to Student Government Agencies, and for special Student Government projects.
- (f) The Assembly shall be responsible for approval of all appointments by the President, unless specified otherwise. The Assembly will vote on each Presidential appointment within fifteen (15) days of appointment by the President. The Assembly may deny approval of a Presidential appointment for good cause shown.
- (g) Any appointment approved by the Assembly may be reversed for good cause shown by a two-thirds majority of total sitting members of the Assembly.
- (h) The Assembly shall have the power to create special agencies to conduct the business of Student Government.
- (i) The Assembly shall have the power to create any appointive office or committee deemed necessary and proper.
- (j) No formal action can be taken by the Assembly without a quorum present, which shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) of the total sitting representatives.
- (k) The Assembly shall have the power to convene itself by written request of one-third (1/3) of the total sitting representatives and to not convene itself by written request of two-thirds (2/3) of the total sitting representatives.
- (l) The Assembly shall meet at least bi-weekly during the fall and spring semesters, on a specific day and time to be set by the Speaker of the Assembly.

Sec. 4.25 COLLEGE OR SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE VACANCIES. Vacancies of a representative seat of a college or school shall be filled by the respective college council, within a period of thirty (30) days after the seat becomes vacant.

Sec. 4.26 UNFILLED VACANCIES, UNIVERSITY-WIDE, **TRANSFER**, FIRST-YEAR, AND AT-LARGE GRADUATE VACANCIES. If a vacancy longer than thirty (30) days cannot be filled by the appropriate college council; or if the vacancy is in a University-wide, **transfer**, at-large graduate, or first-year representative seat; the Assembly Board shall fill the vacancy by appointment, subject to the approval of the Assembly.

Sec. 4.27 APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE REQUIREMENTS. All appointed representatives must meet the same requirements as the elected representatives.

Sec. 4.28 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE. The Assembly may determine the rules of its

proceedings and parliamentary procedure.

Sec. 4.29 ASSEMBLY ELECTION OF UNSPECIFIED OFFICERS. The Assembly may elect officers not specified in this Constitution.

Sec. 4.30 ONE VOTE PER REPRESENTATIVE. Each representative shall have one vote.

Sec. 4.31 NO SECRET BALLOTS. No secret ballots shall be taken by the Student Government Assembly nor any of its sub-entities and committees.

Presented to the Assembly for *First Reading* on

November 1st, 2016

Committed to

Rules & Regulations Committee

Presented to the Assembly for *Second Reading* on

February 7th, 2017

Approved by voice vote

Date: February 7th, 2017

Proof of Approval by the 110th Assembly


Santiago Rosales

Hannah McMorris

Speaker of the Assembly

Clerk of the Assembly

President's Approval

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Helgren', written over a horizontal line.

Kevin Helgren, *Student Body President*