



STUDENT GOVERNMENT SUPREME COURT  
THE UNIVERSITY TEXAS AT AUSTIN

**Advisory Opinion: Determining the Impact of COVID-19  
on the 2020 First-Year Representative Election Cycle**

JUSTICE JAMES delivers the opinion. CHIEF JUSTICE PETON and  
JUSTICES DODSON, HASTINGS, and JONNALAGADDA JOIN

**SUPREME COURT OF THE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**

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**No. Fall 2020 – 004**

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Delivered July 7, 2020

**Summary:** This Advisory Opinion seeks to address physical campaigning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on the institutions we love most, and the 2020 UT SG First Year Representative Election is no exception. Outlined below are areas of the Student Government Specific Election Code (SGSEC) that will be altered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sec. 3.12 of the SGSEC outlines the necessity of filing paperwork in the Student Government Office (WCP 2.102). **During the 2020 First Year Representative Election, all necessary paperwork will be turned in online through the [utexasvote.org](https://utexasvote.org) website.**

Sec. 4.9 of the SGSEC prohibits the existence of campaigning or campaign materials within twenty feet of polling stations. **During the 2020 First Year**



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**Representative Election, this excerpt of the SGSEC is declared null and void, as no physical polling stations will be established.**

As the pandemic continues, the election process is subject to further regulation by the Court as it sees necessary to safeguard student health.

It is so ordered.