

Memorandum

December 17, 2020

To: Dr. Vincent E. Morton, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students
From: Kathryn A. Weiser, Assistant Dean of Students *KaW*
Subject: Student Government Senate Bill Legislation 2020-2021

Three pieces of passed 2020-2021 Senate Bills from Student Government are attached and listed below:

S.B.2020-2021.01 Department of Freshmen Leadership Enablement Act of Fall 2020

This legislation is an amendment to the Executive Departments and Cabinet in the Student Government Code Title V, Chapter 100, Article III, which is under the purview of the Dean of Students to approve.

The amendment adds a new section that establishes a Director of Freshman Leadership who provides direction to a new department called the Department of Freshmen Leadership and a Freshmen Council under the direction of this new department.

S.B.2020-2021.02 Emergency Status Reform Act

This legislation is an amendment to the Standing Rules and Regulations of the Senate in the Student Government Code Title VI, Chapter 200, Article IV, Section 13, which is under the purview of the Dean of Students to approve.

The amendment changes the Senate's legislative procedures by removing the requirement of providing printed pieces of legislation when they are considered as an emergency.

S.B.2020-2021.03 Student Government Resources Access Act

This legislation is an amendment to the Student Government Code Title IX "Statutes," which is under the purview of the Dean of Students to approve.

The amendment adds a new chapter, as Chapter 206, to identify the resources available to Student Government, articulate the officers who must have access to identified resources, and govern the proper usage and conduct of those resources.

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

601 University Drive | LBJ Student Center, Suite 5-9.1 | San Marcos, Texas 78666-4684

phone: 512.245.2124 | *fax:* 512.245.8268 | DOS.TXSTATE.EDU

This letter is an electronic communication from Texas State University.



Memorandum

December 17, 2020

To: Dr. Vincent E. Morton Associate, Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students
Kathryn A. Weiser, Assistant Dean of Students

From: Catching Valentinis-Dee, Student Body President

Subject: Student Government Passed Legislation: Senate Bills 2020-2021

Please find attached the below three pieces of legislation passed by the Student Senate.

Legislation Passed: S.B. 2020-2021.01 Bill entitled as the Department of Freshmen Leadership Enablement Act of Fall 2020

Number of Vote: 18 voted in favor, 8 voted in opposition, 0 voted to abstain

I disagree with this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate that was authored to deliberately subvert the success of the Freshman Council program. According to Student Government governing documents this legislation's pass threshold precluded a veto.

Legislation Passed: S.B. 2020-2021.02 Bill to Reform the Emergency Status Procedure / Emergency Status Reform Act

Number of Vote: 27 voted in favor, 0 voted in opposition, 1 voted to abstain

I approve this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate that strikes the requirement for printed copies of legislation under consideration to be granted emergency status.

Legislation Passed: S.B. 2020-2021.03 Bill entitled as the Student Government Resources Access Act

Number of Vote: 21 voted in favor, 6 voted in opposition, 2 voted to abstain

I do disagree with this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate that codifies previously discretionary access privileges without explicit necessity. According to Student Government governing documents this legislation's pass threshold precluded a veto.

AUTHOR

Senator Cleveland, Jacob

SPONSORS

Parliamentarian DeSalvo, Cody

Senator Halter, Colton

Senator Macias, Regina

Senator Retz, Cody

Senator Stephanos, Jenna

S.B. 201#-201#.02

Date of First Reading: September 14, 2020

A Bill

A bill to be entitled "The Emergency Status Reform Act" relating to the elimination of the required printing of paper copies for legislation that has successfully been granted emergency status by the Chairperson.

1 **WHEREAS:** Currently, the Standing Rules and Regulations of the Senate
2 requires any Senator wishing to have legislation granted
3 emergency status by the Chairperson must "provide no fewer
4 than one copy of proposed legislation for every two members
5 of the current Senate, to be available at the commencement
6 of all Senate committee meetings;" and

7 **WHEREAS:** This policy has ultimately led to a lot of paper going to
8 waste as many pieces of emergency legislation pertain to the
9 confirmations of various positions within Student Government
10 and are promptly discarded after meetings; and

11 **WHEREAS:** The wasting of paper has a negative impact on the annual
12 organizational budget of Student Government; and

13 **WHEREAS:** More importantly, the waste of paper created by the current
14 policy has negative impacts upon the environment; now,
15 THEREFORE:

16 **BE IT ENACTED:** That Title VI, Chapter 200, Article IV, Section 13
17 Student Government Code of laws be amended by striking
18 the section and replaced with the following: "A piece
19 of legislation may be granted emergency status by a
20 two-thirds vote of the Senate or by a declaration of
21 the Chairperson. A piece of legislation successfully
22 granted emergency status would not require a second
23 reading. When a Senator proposes making a piece of
24 legislation emergency they must give proper
25 justification as to why the legislation needs to be
26 made emergency, be presented on the agenda at the time
27 it is sent to the Senate, and must have been submitted
28 the proposed legislation by the due date established
29 in the Standing Rules and Regulations of the Senate
30 Article IV, Section2(a)."

31 **BE IT FURTHER ENACTED:** This legislation be forwarded to the
32 Student Body President for further action.