The Hazelwood Act Bill
“A bill requesting that the future of the Hazelwood Act as active policy effecting Aggie veterans and their spouses at Texas A&M University be clarified.”

Whereas(1): There are currently less than 1000 veterans that are undergraduate and graduate students at Texas A&M University; and,

Whereas(2): The Hazelwood Act is an act in the Texas Education Code that allows for veterans and their dependents to pay for education costs at public universities in the state of Texas; and,

Whereas(3): The Hazelwood Act pays for all academic dues, fees, and charges excluding student service fees and non taxable continuing education fees; and,

Whereas(4): The Hazelwood Act makes a provision for veterans spouses and children to be able to apply for aide under the Hazelwood Act if they are related to a veteran that has died while serving or has been physically disabled making them ineligible for employment after serving in the US military; and

Whereas(5): Several university administrators have made comments regarding the future of the Hazelwood Act at Texas A&M regarding the dependents and spouses of veterans being revised in terms of its source of funding; and,
Whereas(6): The Veterans Task Force has raised several questions regarding whether or not The Hazelwood Act will continue to provide aid to the spouses and dependents of Veterans at Texas A&M; and,

Whereas(7): During the past legislative session, the Texas Legislature has made budget reductions to higher education across the state, limiting the amount of funding needed for universities to function and maintain their current quality of education; and,

Whereas(8): Currently, the Hazelwood Act is an unfunded state mandate that is funded from the tuition dollars of students currently attending Texas A&M University leading leading to an inability to utilize student revenue effectively.

Therefore
Let it be
Enacted(1): That the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University requests a revaluation of the Hazelwood Act in order for it to become funded through the state and not through the students of Texas A&M University; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted(2): That a consensus surrounding the future of the Hazelwood Act regarding veteran spouses and dependents be formed during the 83rd Legislative Session; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted(3): That a copy of this legislation be sent to the following faculty members with 5 days of being passed in Senate:

• Texas A&M University President Bowen Loftin
• EVP for Academic Affairs Karen Watson
• VP for Student Affairs Lt Gen Joe Weber
• Ann Kenimer, Associate Provost For Undergraduate Studies
• Faculty Senate Speaker Dr. John Stallone
• The Department of Financial Aid
• The Texas Senate and House Higher Education Commitees
• Governor Rick Perry