



# The Student Senate

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## Texas A&M University

S.B. 71-05

The Student Senate  
71st Session  
Texas A&M University


**Introduced By:** Gregory Cross, Vice President, Legislative Relations Commission  
Eric Mendoza, Legislative Affairs Chair, Off-Campus Caucus  
Connor Hull, Off-Campus Caucus

**Sponsored By:** Jacob Powell, Academic Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus  
Jett Black, Legislative Affairs, On-Campus Caucus

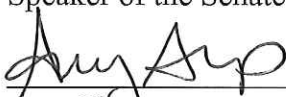
**Action Taken**

PASSED

**Certified By:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mitch Parker  
Speaker of the Senate

**Duly Approved:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Sharp  
Student Body President

### Open Source Textbook Bill

*"A bill aiming to decrease the cost of textbooks."*

**Whereas(1):** Textbooks purchased by full-time or part-time students enrolled at an institution of higher education including, but not limited, to private and public colleges and universities, online universities, junior-colleges, as defined by Section 60.003 of the Education Code and located within the state of Texas can be a painful financial burden on said students; and,

**Whereas(2):** Purchasing or renting new or used textbooks which are required or recommended as instructional materials all constitute an additional cost for many working tertiary students; and,



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Speaker of the Senate

**Whereas(3):** Open Source Textbooks provide professors an alternative, inexpensive, and customizable textbook option that maintains the integrity of a hard copy textbook: and,

**Whereas (4):** The State of Texas and Texas A&M University have a vested interest in alleviating such financial burdens and effective disincentives from higher education for Texas Aggies and all Texans in general, especially when such burdens and disincentives are levied by the state itself.

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(1):** That the Student Government Association pursue action towards the campus-wide adoption of open-source textbooks to reduce the amount of money spent by students on recommended or required textbooks; and,

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(2):** That professors be made aware of the incentives of implementing open-source textbooks such as the Student Government Association Textbook Award; and,

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(3):** That the legislative ideals in this document be regarded as the will of the Texas A&M University Senate and Student Body; and

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(4):** That the Legislative Relations Commission of the Texas A&M Student Government Association should undertake lobbying efforts as necessary to convey this will; and,

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(5):** That a copy of this bill be sent to:  
John Sharp '72, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System  
Michael Young, President of the Texas A&M University  
Michael O'Quinn, Texas A&M Vice President of Government Relations  
Dr. Bruce Herbert, Director of Scholarly Communication at Texas A&M Libraries  
Dean David Carlson, Texas A&M University Libraries



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Texas State Senator Charles Schwertner, District 5  
Texas State Senator Paul Bettencourt, District 7  
Texas State Senator Kirk Watson, District 14  
Texas State Representative John Raney, District 14  
Texas State Senator Charles Perry, District 28  
Texas State Representative J.M. Lozano, District 43