



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 68-20

**The Student Senate
68th Session
Texas A&M University**

Introduced By: Speaker Aaron Mitchell, Off Campus
Finance Chair Joseph Hood, Off Campus

Action Taken



Certified By:

Aaron Mitchell '16
Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate 11-6-15

**The Advisor Fee Referendum Bill
*Special Designation: Emergency Legislation***

"A bill calling for a referendum to establish the Student Government Association's position on a new fee of \$20 per semester to support academic advisors."

Whereas(1): The Senate Bylaws require a referendum to be called when a new fee is proposed in order to establish the Student Government Association's opinion on said fee; and,

Whereas(2): A \$20 per semester advisor fee has been proposed that will affect students; and,

Whereas(3): The Student Senate should comply to the Student Senate Bylaws as well as encourage students to participate in the decision making process of the Student Government Association.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): That a referendum of the Texas A&M student body take place under the direction of the Election Commission from Thursday, November 5 at 4:00pm to Tuesday, November 10 at 5:00 pm; and,



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Senate Bill S.B. 68-20 – Page 2 of 2 Further Certified By:


Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate

**Let it be
Further**

Enacted(2): That the referendum read as follows:

Howdy! The Student Government Association is holding this referendum to establish the student body's opinion on a proposed new fee. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Each student will have one vote.

Please respond to the following **one question** survey in the link below:

Question:

Do you support a new \$20 per semester Undergraduate Student Advising Fee for incoming students (transfer and first-year) and undergraduate students that stay beyond four years (4 ½ for select engineering degrees and 5 for select architecture programs) in order increase academic advising services via training and hiring?

(See below for more detailed information)

- Yes, I **support** the establishment of a new \$20 per semester Student Advising fee.
- No, I **oppose** the establishment of a new \$20 per semester Student Advising fee.

Information:

Texas A&M Administration has proposed a new \$20 per semester "Undergraduate Student Advising Fee" to only be applied to students who enroll in Texas A&M starting in the fall of 2016 or exceed their allotted degree plan time. The fee will help pay for the hiring and training of academic advisors in addition to general improvements of advising at A&M. This new fee will be voted on for either approval or disapproval by the Board of Regents during their meeting November 12th and 13th of this year. Currently, Texas A&M has 368 students per academic advisor. The University has stated that their goal is to lower the ratio to 300 students per academic advisor. University President Dr. Michael K. Young has appropriated \$1.5 million additional dollars for the next year to go toward the improvement of advising services. A student that enrolls for a semester after the allotted time for their degree plan will be assess the \$20 fee for that semester and every subsequent semester they are enrolled in. Additionally, any newly enrolled students—first-year or transfer—after August 2016 will be assessed the \$20 fee for each semester they are enrolled at Texas A&M.