



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 68-21

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

Introduced By: Speaker Pro Tempore Aubre Dean, Off Campus Caucus
Senator Shara McDonald, Off Campus Caucus
Senator Matthew Humble, On Campus Caucus

Sponsored By: Senator Justin Emmons, Off Campus Caucus

Action Taken



Certified By:

Aaron Mitchell /6
Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate
11/22/15

Duly Approved:

Joseph Benigno
Joseph Benigno
Student Body President

Distinguished Student Recognition Change Bill

"A bill asking Texas A&M University to change Student Rule 11 and modify the required credit hours students must take to qualify for academic honors."

Whereas(1): According to the Student Rules, Part I: Academic Rules, Rule 11: Distinguished Students reads:

"An undergraduate student who completes a semester schedule of at least 15 hours or a summer session schedule of at least 12 hours with no grade lower than C and with a grade point ratio of not less than 3.5 for the semester or for a summer session shall be designated "distinguished student." A student who, under the same circumstances, achieves a grade point ratio of at least 3.75 also shall be designated as a member of the "dean's honor roll." First semester freshmen must complete a semester schedule of at least 15 hours with no grade lower than a "C," no Q-drops and with a grade point ratio of not less than 3.5 for "distinguished student" designation and a 3.75 for "dean's honor roll."



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Further Certified By:

Aaron Mitchell '16

Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate

Whereas(2): 10 of 13 Southeastern Conference schools to require students to take 12 hours to be recognized as academically distinguished instead of 15; and,

Whereas(3): Other distinguished Texas institutes of Higher Education such as Baylor, Rice, and Texas Christian University also only require 12 hours for their academic honors, which is the national norm Texas A&M should follow; and,

Whereas(4): Based off the Registrars website for the GPR distribution of Spring 2015 and Fall 2014, lowering to 12 hours would mean ~12% of A&M students would meet the criteria for the accolades; and,

Whereas(5): The requirement for all other benefits of being a full-time student, which is twelve hours in a semester at Texas A&M, is simply being in the minimum number of hours which qualifies you as a full-time student; and,

Whereas(6): A student can be considered full time while taking less than twelve hours if it is their last semester before completing their degree plan and graduating, which should not invalidate them from academic honors recognition.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): That Texas A&M recognizes the accomplishments of all full-time students and the student body, through Student Senate, recommends Student Rules, Part I: Academic Rules, Distinguished Students to read:

“An undergraduate student who is considered a full-time student with no grade lower than C and with a grade point ratio of not less than 3.5 for the semester or for a summer session shall be designated “distinguished student.” A student who, under the same circumstances, achieves a grade point ratio of at least 3.75 also shall be designated as a member of the “dean’s honor roll.” First semester freshmen must also be considered full-time students with no grade lower than a “C,” no Q-drops and with a grade point ratio of not less than 3.5 for “distinguished student” designation and a 3.75 for “dean’s honor roll.”



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Further Certified By:

Aaron Mitchell '16
Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate

Let it be

Further

Enacted(4): A copy of this bill be sent to:

- Michael Young, President of Texas A&M University
- Karan Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President
- Mark Hussey, Dean of College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Jorge Vanegas, Dean of College of Architecture
- Eli Jones, Dean of Mays Business School
- Ryan Crocker, Dean of the Bush School
- Joyce Alexander, Dean of Education and Human Development
- Katherine Banks, Dean of the Dwight Look College of Engineering
- Kate Miller, Dean of the College of Geosciences
- Pamela Matthews, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
- Meigan Aronson, Dean of the College of Science
- Eleanor Green, Dean of College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
- Faculty Senate
- Dr. Guy Battle – Academic Affairs Chair of Faculty Senate