The Student Senate Selection Process Act
Special Designation: Act of the Senate

"An act formalizing the Student Government Association's selection process of the Texas A&M University Student Regent."

Whereas(1): Texas A&M Student Government Association is the official representative voice of all students; and,

Whereas(2): Every two years, The Texas A&M Student Government Association is tasked with appointing two student regent candidates to be sent to the Chancellor and the Governor of Texas to be considered for appointment as the Texas A&M System Student Regent; and,

Whereas(3): In the 65th Session of the Student Senate, Speaker of the Student Senate Scott Bowen and Student Regent Fernando Trevino wrote and passed S.B. 65 18, which created a process that was intended to be more transparent as well as select the best candidates; and,

Whereas(4): This Bill passed through the Senate and was signed by then Student Body President John Claybrook.
Therefore
Let it be
Enacted(1): That a new chapter, V S.G.A.C. §705 be added to the code that shall read as follows:

CHAPTER 705 – STUDENT REGENT ACT
Created by S.B. 68-56
Created March 9, 2016

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Section I. The 68th Student Senate recognized the need for a transparent and fair selection process for the Texas A&M University System Student Regent. This Act is intended to enhance the quality of our Student Regent recommendations, create a more transparent process, and involved all branches in the selection of the recommended students.

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

Section I. “Student Regent” shall refer to the student appointed by the Governor of Texas to serve on the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents as a non-voting member and student representative.

Section II. “Student Regent recommendation” shall refer to the recommendation of two students to fill the position of Texas A&M University Student Regent made every-other year by the Texas A&M University Student Government Association to the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System and Governor of Texas

Section III. The “Student Regent Recommendation Committee” shall be defined as the five member committee outlined in Article III Section I of this Act.

Section IV. “Appointment year” shall refer to the calendar year in which a Student Regent recommendation is solicited from the Student Government Association.

ARTICLE III. REQUIREMENTS

Section I. The Student Regent recommendation shall be made by a five member committee known as the “Student Regent Recommendation Committee” and shall be made up of the following members:

(a) Speaker of the Student Senate
(b) Student Body President
(c) Chief Justice of the Judicial Court
(d) Student Senate Legislative Affairs Chair
(e) Legislative Relations Commissioner
Section II. The Student Regent Recommendation Committee shall be chaired by the Student Body President, who will vote only in the event of a tie amongst the members.

Section III. A quorum of three (3) members must be present in order to make a recommendation. All meeting of the Student Regent Recommendation Committee must be set at least 72 hours in advance at a reasonably accessible location to all Committee members.

Section IV. A majority vote of the Student Recommendation Committee shall be required to recommend a Student Regent candidate.

ARTICLE IV. SELECTION PROCESS

Section I. No later than the fourth week of the fall semester before an appointment year, the Student Body President shall solicit applications for the position of Student Regent via campus-wide communication.

Section II. The Student Regent Recommendation Committee shall then meet to select which applicants to interview, interview these candidates, and vote on the Student Regent recommendation. Applicants shall be evaluated on at least the following merits:
(a) Professional skills including but not limited to communication, presentation, and personal skills
(b) History of working with elected officials, testifying before the Board of Regents, and experience lobbying administrators or Regents on issues
(c) Understanding of Texas A&M University student issues, fee structures, and other policy knowledge
(d) History of service at Texas A&M

Section III. The Committee shall report their recommendation to the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System no later than the first week of the spring semester during the appointment year.

ARTICLE V. AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

Section I. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of this Act shall fall on the Student Body President, Speaker of the Student Senate, and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court.

Let it be
Further
Enacted(1): This act, upon passage, be sent to the following:

David Sonka – Student Senate Rules and Regulations Committee Chair