The SGA Constituency Outreach Act  
Special Designation: An Act of Senate

"An Act codifying a new constituency outreach and reporting program utilizing Caucus Leaders and Constituency Affairs."

Whereas(1): SGA has a poor track record of receiving useful feedback and ideas from the Student Body; and,

Whereas(2): This is problematic as SGA exists to represent the Student Body; and,

Whereas(3): Very few people who aren’t directly involved seem to know little about SGA and Senate in particular, including what the Senate Body is doing on a weekly basis, except for select high visibility or controversial issues that are reported through local news outlets; and,

Whereas(4): Currently the Caucus Leader position is an under-utilized title that has huge potential in an outreach perspective; and,

Whereas(5): It is clear that the current constituency outreach program is not effective.
Therefore
Let it be
Enacted(1): That V S.G.A.C §909 be created, titled: "Constituency Affairs P&P" and read as follows:

CHAPTER 909 – CONSTITUENCY AFFAIRS POLICIES AND PROPOSALS
Created by S.B. 68-57
On March 9, 2016

ARTICLE I. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Section I. The Student Senate intends this Chapter to organize all policies and proposals concerning constituency affairs, outreach or reporting to the Student Body, student organizations or media outlets at Texas A&M University, and any other statutes it may enact reasonably relating to constituency affairs.

ARTICLE II. THE CONSTITUENCY OUTREACH ACT

Section I. Legislative Intent of this Particular Article

(a) The Student Senate intends this Article to establish an official constituency outreach and transparency program which would both increase the visibility of the Statutes passed by Student Senate and implemented by SGA and to increase awareness of the organization as a whole while furthering SGA’s ability to solicit opinions from the Student Body.

Section II. Outreach and Visibility Program

(a) A joint Senate – Executive outreach program shall be created that at minimum consists of the elements detailed in (b) – (f).

(b) Joint Senate – Executive tabling hours for constituency outreach with reasonable effort to be maintained at a frequency of once every other week during the regular Fall and Spring term. The location of this table shall rotate occasionally through high traffic areas across the University but the location and time shall always be announced in a publicly accessible manner at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the beginning of the tabling session.
(e) Joint Senate – Executive Student Organization speaking which would consist of both a member of the executive branch and the Constituency Affairs Committee, with an allowable substitute being the Caucus Leader or their designee from the Caucus to which that Student Organization most closely identifies, reaching out to and speaking to a Recognized Student Organization to inform them of, nonexclusively, legislative and executive news within SGA and also to solicit Student opinion.

(d) Online AgInput submission forms which are regularly monitored by the Constituency Affairs Committee Chair of Student Senate, and awareness of which is promoted by all forms of constituency outreach detailed in Section II of this Article.

(e) The Vice President of Constituency Affairs shall, at minimum, one time by the last general Senate meeting of each the Fall and Spring semester compile a summary list of the most important legislative and executive news from that semester into a newsletter-type format. He shall be responsible to coordinate with any social-media or marketing related positions within the executive branch to ensure this summary is made publically available to the Student Body. The Senate Constituency Affairs Committee Chair shall work with the Senate Caucus Leaders to disseminate this newsletter to the Student Organizations who identify most closely with their Caucuses.

(f) Reasonable effort should be put forth by the Senate Constituency Affairs Committee and the Vice President of Constituency Affairs to come up with additional ways to more effectively outreach to the Student Body and increase their awareness of SGA.

Section III. Execution of this Particular Article

(a) The Vice President of Constituency Affairs, or the Student Body President should that position not be filled, shall be responsible to see to it that the policies described in Section II of this Article as responsibilities of a member of the executive branch are faithfully executed and shall regularly report to the Student Senate on the status of the execution of these policies. The Constituency Affairs Committee Chair of Student Senate shall be responsible to see to it that the policies described in Section II of this Article as responsibilities of members of the legislative branch are faithfully executed.

Let it be
Further
Enacted(2): This legislation, upon passage, should be sent to the following individual:

David Sonka – Student Senate Rules and Regulations Committee Chairman