The Student Senate
68th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Speaker Pro Tempore Aubre Dean
Sponsored by: Ja'Cory Clark, On-Campus Senator
Action Taken: PASSED
Certified By: Aaron Mitchell
Speaker of the Senate
Duly Approved: Joseph Benigno
Student Body President

On-Campus Caucus Reform Act
Special Designation: Act of the Senate

"An act improving the Election Regulations in concern with the University Apartments and On-Campus Caucus."

Whereas(1): The Election Regulations are in need of improvement. The 69th session did not have the one University Apartments seat filled due to lack of interest and this is often a problem seen every year.

Therefore
Let it be
Enacted(1): That V S.G.A.C §3.001a, Article III, Section I(b) (Senate Bylaws) read as follows:

(b) The eight (8) on-campus representatives shall be drawn from:

(1) On-Campus - Competition for the six (6) at-large seats shall be divided among non-Corps of Cadets members living in Residence Halls managed by Texas A&M Reslife.
such as the statue of Sullivan Ross in Academic Plaza, the state of James E. Rudder at the end of Military Walk, the statue of J.V. “Pinky” Wilson, the composer of the Aggie War Hymn, on the west side of the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center, the E. King Gill statues in front of Kyle Field and Rudder Plaza, the H.J. “Hank” Gruy Fountain near the Hagler Center, and the sculpture of Robert J. Kleberg Jr. in front of the Kleberg Center; and,

Whereas(3): There have been several efforts in the past to create a memorial of some sort to honor Gaines, including the Matthew Gaines Memorial Committee formed on the initiative of the Aggie College Republicans in the mid 1990s which was in support of forming a statue of the State Senator. There have been several other efforts since that time to bring the memorial to Texas A&M; and,

Whereas(4): Prairie View A&M has a park named after Senator Gaines; and,

Whereas(5): Our University has shown through initiatives such as “Vision 2020” and their response to incidences of racial intolerance and violence a commitment to “attract and nurture a more ethnically, culturally, and geographically diverse faculty, staff, and student body” (Imperative 6 of Vision 2020). A statue honoring Matthew Gaines, a former African American state senator, for his role in the creation of Texas A&M University could further this goal, and demonstrate Texas A&M’s pride in our unique origins and diverse past.

Therefore  
Let it be  
Enacted(1): That the Student Senate Campus Climate and Inclusion Committee research the feasibility of a statue of Senator Matthew Gaines being placed on the main campus of Texas A&M; and,
Let it be
Further
Enacted (2): That the Student Senate Campus Climate and Inclusion Committee make a report with a recommendation expressing their thoughts on the statue, stating that they either "recommend," "need more research," or "do not recommend" the place of the statue; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted (3): That the administration of Texas A&M form a committee with the same mission of researching and making a recommendation regarding the feasibility of a statue of Senator Gaines; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted (4): That the administration a copy of their report to the Texas A&M Student Government Association and to the Diversity Commissioner; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted (5): That a copy of this bill be sent to:
Mr. Michael K. Young, President of Texas A&M University
Mr. John Sharp, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System
Christine Stanley, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity