



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 64-11

The Student Senate
64th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Academic Affairs Chair Brody Smith, Off Campus

Action Taken Passed
Unanimous
November 16, 2011

Certified By: Tanner Wilson
Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Duly Approved: Jeff Pickering 112
Jeff Pickering 11-23-11
Student Body President

The Degree Plan Initiative Bill

"A bill designed to allow students to advise incoming freshmen on how to fill out a degree plan with a margin of error to prepare for future classes."

- Whereas(1):** Students at Texas A&M University are made aware of their degree plans upon attending their New Student Conferences by their individual department advisor; and,
- Whereas(2):** Not all students follow the sample degree plans offered to students by their department advisors; and,
- Whereas(3):** Many students change majors and minors before the completion of their first semester; and,
- Whereas(4):** HB 3025 will require students at the beginning of Fall 2012 to file a degree plan by the time 45 undergraduate hours are taken; and,
- Whereas(5):** Currently, there is no contingency to file more than one degree plan to account for a possible change in major for each student; and,
- Whereas(6):** Many high demand classes throughout the university have been filled up to and over capacity due to increasing student population and last minute changes by students who need various classes in order to graduate.



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Further Certified By: *Tanner Wilson*
Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): That Student Government Association supports a new student initiative, the Student Degree Advising Committee, be started in conjunction with the University Advisory Committee to help freshmen students to file a degree plan with a margin for change within their first year; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): That the Student Government Association create a set of criteria that each member of the Student Degree Advising Committee must meet to be a part of this initiative such as a 3.0 GPA, Junior or above classification, experience as a student leader at Texas A&M University in a recognized student organization, along with prior knowledge of academic affairs at Texas A&M University; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(3): That the Colleges within the university use the data filed with each degree plan to allot appropriate numbers of courses and class sections for future accommodations to alleviate overcrowding in cramped classes; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(4): That students who wish to aid incoming freshmen to outline their degree need to attend the peer mentoring program offered by the Student Learning Center in the spring before the first New Student Conferences of 2012; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(5): That the Student Degree Advising Committee be allowed to meet in the YMCA building during the year to advise students; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(6): The Student Government Association supports the creation in the Howdy portal of a function in the Degree Plan tab that will allow students to file multiple degree plans if they are undecided on their choice of major in order to alert the Office of the Registrar; and,



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Further Certified By: 

Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Let it be
Further

Enacted(7): That this legislation be sent to the following individuals within 5 days of passage by the Student Senate:

- Karen Watson, EVP of Academic Affairs
- Joe Pettibon, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Services
- University Advising Committee
- Pam Matthews, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Karen Mathews, Student Learning Center
- Associate Provost of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Leisa Crupton Young
- Exec of Communication, Chris Tucker
- EIS Committee

Karan
mis-spelled