



# The Student Senate

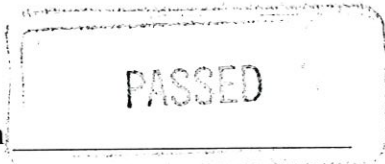
Texas A&M University

S.R. 64-03

The Student Senate  
64<sup>th</sup> Session  
Texas A&M University

**Introduced By:** Senator Chris Esparza, Off Campus  
Speaker Pro Tempore Amanda Hatheway, Business  
Community Affairs Chair Drew Barber, Off Campus  
Legislative Affairs Chair Katherine Nydegger, Business  
Academic Affairs Chair Brody Smith, Off Campus  
Senator Mark Womack, Off Campus  
Senator William Jacob Cobb, Veterinary Medicine  
Senator Daniel Hernandez, College of Science

**Action Taken:**



JUN 30 11

**Certified By:**

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Tanner Wilson".

Tanner Wilson  
Speaker of the Senate

**Student Regent Application Process Integrity Resolution**  
*Special Designation: Summer Senate Resolution*

*"A resolution expressing disapproval in the manner in which the current Texas A&M University System Student Regent was selected."*

**Whereas(1):** The Texas Education Code: Texas Statutes – Section 51.355: Nonvoting Student Regent; University System Board of Regents defines “student government” as “the representative student organization directly elected by the student body of a general academic teaching institution or medical and dental unit;” and,

**Whereas(2):** The Texas Education Code: Texas Statutes – Section 51.355: Nonvoting Student Regent; University System Board of Regents subsection (c) further outlines the process by which the student government solicits applications and makes recommendations to the system chancellor, and by which the chancellor submits his recommendations to the governor ; and,



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 64-03 – Page 2 Further Certified By:

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Tanner Wilson".

Tanner Wilson  
Speaker of the Senate

**Whereas(3):** The Texas Education Code: Texas Statutes – Section 51.355: Nonvoting Student Regent; University System Board of Regents subsection (c) further states “on June 1, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the governor shall appoint one of the **applicants** to serve as the student regent for the system for a one-year term expiring on the next May 31”; and,

**Whereas(4):** While the governor is not required to appoint an applicant recommended by the chancellor, the author of the legislation that created the student regent position, State Senator Jeff Wentworth, has stated that the governor is required to appoint a student who submitted an application to their respective student government, as outlined in the first step in the appointment process and in accordance with the legislative intent of the statute; and,

**Whereas(5):** On September 13, 2010 then-Student Body President Jacob Robinson sent out a campus-wide e-mail soliciting applications for the position of student regent; the e-mail states:

“The Student Government Association is also accepting applications for the position of Student Regent on The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, as well as applications for the student representative position on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Both of these positions provide student input on the statewide level. If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact my Chief of Staff, Ryan O'Dwyer, at [ExecCOS@dsa.tamu.edu](mailto:ExecCOS@dsa.tamu.edu)”

The e-mail containing the aforementioned statement was sent to all registered students at Texas A&M University; and,

**Whereas(6):** In April 2011, Governor Rick Perry appointed Fernando Trevino Jr. to the position of student regent for the Texas A&M System Board of Regents; and,


**Whereas(7):** Texas A&M System spokesman Jason Cook has confirmed that “Fernando Trevino Jr. applied directly to Perry’s office.”



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 64-03 – Page 3 Further Certified By:

  
Tanner Wilson  
Speaker of the Senate

Therefore

Let it be

**Resolved(1):** That the Texas A&M University Student Senate does not believe that the newly appointed student regent was appointed in accordance with Texas state law as outlined in the Texas Education Code; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(2):** By violating the Texas Education Code Statutes outlining the selection process for a student regent, the Office of the Governor has tarnished the application and selections process; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(3):** The Texas A&M University Student Senate strongly disapproves of the manner in which the Office of the Governor appointed the current student regent to the position of student regent for the Texas A&M System; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(4):** Given the confusion experienced by several Student Regent applicants, the Student Senate suggests that the following measures be taken to ensure an airtight application process that is accessible to all students:

1. The Student Regent application is consolidated into one single application.
2. All applicants shall continue to apply directly through the A&M System Member university's student government.
3. The TAMUS Office of Academic Affairs shall be the sole point of contact for applicants at each A&M System Member university with questions regarding the application process.
4. The Office of Academic Affairs shall send instruction regarding the Student Regent application process by *October 1*, providing students with accurate information in a timely manner.



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution

S.R. 64-03 – Page 4

Further Certified By:

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Tanner Wilson".

Tanner Wilson

Speaker of the Senate

5. Each A&M System Member university's student government is encouraged to send a campus wide e-mail by November 1, or sooner, to aide in disseminating information to applicants. The email should outline the application procedure, deadlines and contact information for the TAMUS Office of Academic Affairs; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(5):** By ignoring the process outlined in the Texas Education Code statutes, the Office of the Governor has cast a shroud of doubt over the Student Government Association's ability to fairly and transparently represent all students through the application process; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(6):** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the Governor of Texas, the Texas Senate Committee on Higher Education Chairwoman Senator Judith Zaffirini, the Texas House of Representatives Committee on Higher Education Chairman Representative Dan Branch, the Texas A&M System Board of Regents, Texas A&M President Dr. R Bowen Loftin, Texas A&M Vice President for Student Affairs Lt. Gen. Weber and the Student Body Presidents for all Texas A&M System Universities.