



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 64-51

The Student Senate
64th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Taylor Sessions, Veterans Affairs Student Liaison, COALS

Sponsored By: Cody Davis, Off Campus
Academic Affairs Chair Brody Smith, Off Campus

Action Taken: PASSED
April 18, 2012

Certified By: Tanner Wilson
Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Duly Approved: Jeff Pickering
Jeff Pickering
Student Body President 4-25-12

Veterans Academic Standards Bill

"A bill advocating for veteran awareness across campus, more veteran friendly advising, and more consideration of veteran service as curriculum credit at Texas A&M University."

Whereas(1): Texas A&M University has a reputation of being a recognized veteran friendly campus with currently 650+ veterans enrolled; and,

Whereas(2): Currently, veterans of the US military are classified as reservists and prior service members; and,

Whereas(3): There is no current consideration for international and cultural diversity, humanities, foreign language, political science, history, and communication credits for veteran experiences overseas; and,

Whereas(4): Advisors at Texas A&M University are currently unable to handle the myriad of credits that veterans can accumulate while overseas including the changes to the core curriculum made while veterans are activated; and,

Whereas(5): The Texas A&M University Veterans Services Office is housed within Texas A&M University Financial Aid Office; and,



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Further Certified By:

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

Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Whereas(6): The Financial Aid office cannot initiate any programs that do not pertain to financial aid processing, scholarships, and veterans benefits which does not include academic advising; and,

Whereas(7): There is currently no veteran's initiative in the Student Government Association to advocate on behalf of veterans in the student body.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): The Student Government Association supports the relocation of the Veterans Services Office to the Department of Student Affairs; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): The Student Government Association requests that the university have initially one academic advisor that is certified to deal with veterans affairs and will advocate for veterans advisors in each college; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(3): The Student Government Association advocates that AOC Deans be aware of students who have enrolled in Texas A&M University and are activated reservists in service during their college career in order to keep the original academic benchmarks in place for the veterans (GPA requirements to get into majors, degrees, etc) once they return to Texas A&M University; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(4): The Student Government Association requests the criteria and rubric for the Request for the Associate Provost For Undergraduate Studies For Curricular Exceptions be established and made available in order to better insure that veterans receive credit based on the extent and scope of their service; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(5): The Student Senate supports the creation of a veterans initiative within the Student Government Association to advocate on behalf of veterans across the university; and,



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Further Certified By: *Tanner Wilson*

Tanner Wilson

Speaker of the Senate

Let it be

Further

Enacted(6): That a copy of this legislation be sent to the following entities within 5 days of passage by the Student Senate:

- President R. Bowin Loftin
- EVP of Academic Affairs Karen Watson
- Associate Provost of Undergraduate Studies, Lisa Crupton Young
- VP Of Student Affairs Lt. General Joe Weber
- The Department of Student Affairs
- The Department of Financial Aid
- AOC Deans
- The Board of Regents