



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 64-69

The Student Senate  
64th Session  
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Jody Harris, Constituency Affairs Chair

Sponsored By: Amanda Hatheway, Speaker Pro Tempore

Action Taken

PASSED

February 8, 2012

Certified By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tanner Wilson".

Tanner Wilson  
Speaker of the Senate

**The Twelfth Man Point System Bill**  
*Special Designation: Senate By-Law Bill*

*"A bill to create a point system to allow several outlets by which Senators can communicate with their constituents."*

**Whereas(1):** The Texas A&M Student Senate exists to represent the students of Texas A&M University; and,

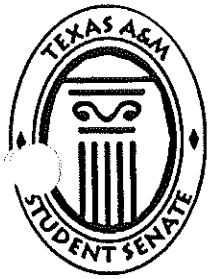
**Whereas(2):** The Current Opinion Booth system has failed to provide an effective and efficient outlet for Senators to communicate with their constituents; and,

**Whereas(3):** Many peer institutions in the Big XII Conference utilize a similar point system to encourage communication between Student Senators and the students that they represent.

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Enacted(1):** Article XII shall be added to the Senate By-Laws as follows:




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Speaker of the Senate

## Article XII

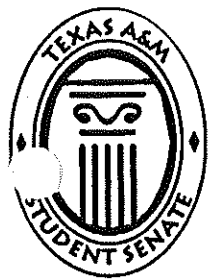
### The Twelfth Man Point System

All Senators shall be required to reach out to the student body, the Twelfth Man, in order for the Student Senate to retain its title as: The Representative Body of the students of Texas A&M. Senators will be held accountable by a point system that provides Senators many different outlets by which to accomplish this goal.

**Section I** All Senators are required to earn at least twelve (12) points in the Twelfth Man Point System per semester. Failure to serve the students by reaching at least twelve (12) points shall result in one-fourth (1/4) unexcused absence for the points not fulfilled, and each one (1) point gained above the twelve (12) point minimum shall result in a one-fourth (1/4) absence forgiveness.

**Section II** Points may be acquired by serving the students in any of the following ways:

- (a) Office hours- One (1) point per hour
  - (1) Senators may sign up to work office hours in the SGA office. Senators shall operate under the Aggie Honor Code to work productively during this time.
    - (i) During this time a Senator's responsibility is to be available to talk to students who might walk in Koldus, and if possible provide a way for students to make an appointment to meet with their Senator.
    - (ii) The Internal Affairs committee may also place a to-do list in the office for senators to complete when there are no students in the office.
    - (iii) This activity shall count for one point per hour in the Twelfth Man point system.
- (b) Resolutions- Two (2) points apiece
  - (1) Senators are encouraged to write resolutions to student groups. Resolutions can earn senators two (2) points if said resolutions meet the following requirements:
    - (i) Must be written to a group of A&M students, but the group does not have to be a recognized student organization.
    - (ii) Must send a positive message. It may not condemn the group to which it was sent.
    - (iii) Must say something specific about a group of students.
    - (iiii) If duplicate resolutions are sent to multiple groups of students a senator shall only earn two (2) points.

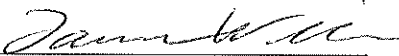


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- (v) Must be deemed, constructive, useful, and appropriate by the Constituency Affairs chair or his or her designee, who must be a member of the Constituency Affairs Committee.
- (c) Bring up issues at organization meetings- Three (3) points per organization
  - (1) A senator may earn three (3) points for speaking to an organization of students about upcoming legislation. The following guidelines apply:
    - (i) Speaking to an organization that one is a part of (while encouraged) shall not count for any points.
    - (ii) Senators must speak about upcoming legislation. They may briefly explain the Student Senate, however the purpose of this activity is to give a “this is what we are doing” speech. Senators should encourage students to bring forward ideas for amendments to legislation or new legislation altogether.
    - (iii) Productive feedback must be acquired to gain points.
- (d) Opinion booths- Four (4) points per tabling hour
  - (1) Any senator or group of senators may set up an opinion table with the help of the Constituency Affairs Committee. Every hour spent at a table will count for four (4) points. The Following guidelines must be met.
    - (i) Any surveys that the Constituency Affairs Committee or the Internal Affairs Committee drafts must be included in the opinion table.
    - (ii) The location and relative time of operation of any opinion booth(s) must be made known to the Senate body in the form of an email or announcement in a general meeting.
- (e) Campus Speaking Tours- Five (5) points
  - (1) Any senator or group of senators may put together a campus speaking tour which will count for five (5) points if the following guidelines are met:
    - (i) It is encouraged, but not mandatory, that a campus icon (such as Dr. Loftin) be present during this event.
    - (ii) The Speaking Tour must cover at least four (4) different locations on campus.
    - (iii) A minimum of one location must be on Main Campus and one on West Campus, unless there are two or more tours planned in the same week where one tour would focus on Main Campus and the other on West Campus.
    - (iiii) A minimum of two hours must be spent on this activity in order to receive credit.



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- (f) Town Hall Meeting – Six (6) points
  - (1) Any Senator may set up an event where students can voice their opinion. If done properly it may count for six (6) points. It must follow the guidelines listed below:
    - (i) Subject to the preview of the Internal Affairs Committee.
    - (ii) At least 100 students must be in attendance.
- (g) Senators are encouraged to come up with new ideas for events that could count for points
  - (1) The Constituency Affairs Chair may authorize a Senator to participate in an event not outlined by these by-laws and may award points to senators based upon the amount of work done and opinion gained.

**Section III** All opinion and other information gathered at any of the events described in this Article shall be considered public information, and must be turned over to the Constituency Affairs Chair or any other Senator or Senate officer that may be deemed necessary.

- (a) Failure to comply with Section III will result in no points being awarded.

**Section IIII** All decisions about what constitutes compliance with the point system shall lie with the Constituency Affairs Chair or his or her designee, who must be a member of the Constituency Affairs Committee.

- (a) All decisions made by the Constituency Affairs Chair (or designee) can be repealed by a majority vote of the Constituency Affairs Committee.
- (b) All decisions may be appealed to the Internal Affairs Committee, which has the final say in all of these matters.
- (c) The Constituency Affairs Chair/ Committee may only decide to award or to deny full credit. Any decisions about partial credit must go directly to the Internal Affairs Committee.

**Section V Sunset Clause**

- (a) This Point system shall expire at the end of the 64<sup>th</sup> session of the Student Senate and shall never be used again.
  - (1) In order for this point system to continue a by-laws bill shall be written to strike Section V, and introduced to the Senate as New Business, it will then go to the Constituency Affairs Committee (as it has already passed through the Rules and Regulations Committee) and come back before the Student Senate as Old Business.
  - (2) It is encouraged that the point system be amended if there be need.