



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 64-88

The Student Senate
64th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Tanner Wilson, Speaker of the Student Senate
Tyler Varisco, Off-Campus Caucus

PASSED

Action Taken _____
March 7, 2012

Certified By:

Amanda Hatheway
Amanda Hatheway
Speaker Pro Tempore

Duly Approved:

Jeff Pickering '12
Jeff Pickering 3-8-12
Student Body President

The Preserve the Aggie Wranglers and Protect Student Organizations Bill

A bill requesting that Student Activities prioritize the restoration of the Aggie Wranglers to good standing as a recognized student organization.

- Whereas(1):** The Aggie Wranglers have been a valuable part of the community at Texas A&M University since 1984; and,
- Whereas(2):** Following a series of personal disagreements with their advisor in the Department of Student Activities, the Aggie Wranglers have been suspended and ordered to cease all official functions as an organization; and,
- Whereas(3):** The abrupt revocation of their status as a recognized student organization has forced the Aggie Wranglers to cancel several prior performance commitments, to cancel plans for a number of out-of-state and international trips, and to cease giving dance lessons for the first session of this Spring 2012 semester; and,
- Whereas(4):** As a result of the cessation of lessons, the Aggie Wranglers had no choice but to refund approximately \$11,000 to individuals who were taking lessons at the time of their suspension; and,
- Whereas(5):** Unless the Aggie Wranglers are allowed to resume activities within the next few weeks, they will likely lose an additional \$9,000 or more from cancelled dance lessons in the second half of this Spring 2012 semester; and,



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Further Certified By: Amanda Hatheway
Amanda Hatheway
Speaker Pro Tempore

Whereas(6): While suspended, the Aggie Wranglers are unable to fulfill their purpose and are restricted from engaging in community outreach; and,

Whereas(7): Cancelling lessons and renegeing on prior performance commitments will profoundly damage the image of the Aggie Wranglers; and,

Whereas(8): As the Aggie Wranglers are a University-branded student organization, any damages to the image of the Aggie Wranglers likewise reflect poorly on Texas A&M University as a whole; and,

Whereas(9): The Department of Student Activities serves to empower and encourage student organizations at Texas A&M University; and,

Whereas(10): Anecdotally, the bill authors have heard a number of complaints from students in many varied organizations complain that student organizations are losing autonomy and are no longer “student run;” and,

Whereas(11): A similar chain of events, precipitated by conflict with or absence of an advisor, could adversely affect any other organization within the Department of Student Activities; and,

Whereas(12): Such organizations may likewise provide necessary services to the Aggie Family, from CARPOOL to Muster Committee; and,

Whereas(13): The cessation of these services would likewise be detrimental to the Aggie Family.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): That the Texas A&M University Student Government Association requests that the Department of Student Activities make it a priority to work with the Aggie Wranglers to once again attain recognized status; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): That the Student Government Association believes that a public discourse on the chain of events leading to the suspension of the Aggie Wranglers is prudent and necessary; and,



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Further Certified By: *Amanda Hatheway*
Amanda Hatheway
Speaker Pro Tempore

Let it be

Further

Enacted(3): That the purpose of this discourse should be to prevent a similar escalation of personal disagreements and the subsequent suspension of student organizations that fill unique and valuable roles to the Aggie Family; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(4): That the Student Senate would also like to begin an investigation with the Department of Student Activities in order to understand what appears to be a rise in disagreements regarding the role of advisors in student organizations, and then to address these concerns pragmatically and universally; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(5): That a copy of this legislation be presented to the following:

- Dr. R. Bowen Loftin, President of Texas A&M University
- LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret), Vice President for Student Activities
- Dr. Bill Stackman, Director for Student Activities