



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.B. 64-101

The Student Senate
64th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Academic Affair Chair Brody Smith, Off Campus

Action Taken

PASSED

April 18, 2012

Certified By:

Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Duly Approved:

Jeff Pickering
Student Body President

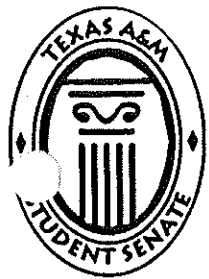
The University Excused Absence Policy Amendment Bill

"A bill requesting that Texas A&M University make exceptions to the university excused absence policy allowing for more excused absences in relation to student organizations and service events."

Whereas(1): There are currently 50,000 plus students attending Texas A&M University trying to get a degree in the most expedient and fiscally responsible way possible; and,

Whereas(2): Currently, the University Excused Absence Policy allows for students to be absent and be excused for the following reasons: an event takes place listed on the university calendar, death of a family members, participation in legal proceedings, religious holy days, sustained injury or contagious illness, military duties, mandatory admission interviews; and,

Whereas(3): While there are some exceptions to the above rules which can be deemed acceptable to professors for students to have an excused absence, in most cases professors still require proof that an event is on the university calendar for them to be counted absent; and,



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Whereas(4): Several recognized student organizations are part of national charities and philanthropies (American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association) that hold events that require their student members and officers to attend national events and summits as requirements for the organizations; and,

Whereas(5): The constitutions of these student organizations with connections to national charities have in some instances required their members and student leaders to attend these national events on the basis of representation obligations; and,

Whereas(6): These national events, while listed as attendance requirements to be considered in good standing with the student organization in their constitutions, are not listed in the university calendar and are not excused absences for students.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): That the Student Government Association of Texas A&M University supports an amendment to the student rules allowing for students who are obligated in the student organizations they are involved in to attend national or regional events, job interviews and career fairs, to have excused absences for their attendance to those events each year; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): That the Department of Student Activities create a form and process that would allow students to show proof that the event they must attend as per their constitutions is reasonably linked to their organizations requirements to be in good standing; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(3): Students involved in recognized student organizations that must attend national or other events associated with their good standing with their student organization as stipulated by their constitutions need to provide two weeks notice to their professors that they will miss class due to these events; and,



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Tanner Wilson
Speaker of the Senate

Let be

Further

Enacted(4): That once proof is shown that the event is a requirement for students in that recognized student organization, a copy of that proof must be shown to the professors of the classes that the student will miss in order to obtain an excused absence along with their two weeks notice; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(5): That the Department of Student Activities educate students and student leaders in about this new requirement for excused absences at officer training seminars during the summer and throughout the year; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(6): That the students attending these events that have met with the above requirements of Student Activities will also be required to show proof of their attendance at these events in order to be counted excused; and,

Let it be

Further

Enacted(7): That a copy of this legislation be sent to the following faculty members with 5 days of being passed in Senate:

- The Department of Student Activities
- VP of Student Affairs, Lt Gen Joe Weber
- University Rules and Regulations