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**S.B. 2017-2018.01**

# Date of First Reading: September 11, 2017

**A Bill –**

**To be Entitled “The Constituent Outreach Technology Act”, which sets forth guidelines in technology usage for constituent outreach from College Senators.**

**WHEREAS:** The Student Government at Texas State University’s mission is “Students Serving Students”; and

**WHEREAS:** It is imperative, in order to serve fellow students, to communicate and relay information from within the Senate chamber to the student constituent population at large and within each respective academic college; and

**WHEREAS:** The ability to relay messages online has revolutionized the political process on every level and will continue to do so for years to come; and

**WHEREAS:** Every student enrolled in classes at Texas State has access to a TRACS page; and

**WHEREAS:** Student Government meetings oftentimes provide valuable information in the form of legislation, presentations, speeches, debates, discussions, and forums which can be of use for all students at Texas State; and

**WHEREAS:** Student Government Senators are governed by standards when it comes to proper communication within university guidelines; therefore

**BE IT ENACTED:** By the authority granted under Article III Section 1

1. of the student government constitution, Student Government Code Title IX, Subtitle 1 – miscellaneous shall be amended to include the following chapter to follow Chapter 111:

**SUBTITLE I- MISCELLANEOUS 1**

**CHAPTER 111 – The Constituent Outreach Technology Act**

**ARTICLE I. ADMINISTRATIVE**

**§1 AUTHORIZATION.** This chapter and all of its regulations are authorized pursuant to Article III (10) (a), (j) of the Student Government Constitution.

**§2 PURPOSE.** The Senate, wishing to enhance Student Government constituent communication will enact this bill which aims to give College Senators access to a TRACS website which gives them the capabilities to communicate with students from within their college about proposed as well as passed legislation, Student Government and university events, resources, and the like.

**§3 FUNCTIONS.** The TRACS capability for Student Government College Senators will work similarly to a TRACS page and is a specially made system for use by members of Student Government to communicate with students at Texas State through means of email, resource sharing, web-forums, and other forms of direct communication

**§4 REGULATIONS.** Certain necessary regulations must be placed on the use of this capability as prescribed by the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs in consultation with the Student Government Cabinet and the Dean of Students. Those regulations are as follows:

1. College Senators shall be the only members of Student Government beside the Student Body President and the Chief of Staff who have access to the capability to transmit messages through this system.
2. No more than two emails may be sent through this system by any member of Student Government per month.
3. All correspondence through this system must pass through the Student Government Chief of Staff for ultimate approval by the Student Body President.
4. No correspondence of a vulgar, personal, or any other nature which may indemnify Student Government, the Dean of Students office, or any other Texas State University entity may be sent through this platform; to do so would be punishable by the harshest terms.
5. Log-in information must be kept secure and not shared by those who are not permitted to use this system of correspondence as referenced in §3 subsection (a).
6. Failure to properly utilize this correspondence program in the sense that a College Senator fails to communicate with their constituents will result in disciplinary sanctions.
7. All members of the college who will receive this correspondence from Student Government must opt-out should they choose to no longer utilize this communication tool.

**§5 PRESIDENTIAL DISCRETION.** The President may choose to suspend this program as he/she deems necessary and proper.

**ARTICLE II. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PROGRAM**

**§1 AUTHORIZATION.** The Senate hereby authorizes a program that will prioritize communication from the Senate to the Student Body at large through a special technological program crafted for the Student Government at Texas State.

1. The communication and correspondence will follow all applicable regulations prescribed in Article 1 §4 of this chapter.
2. The program will be up for review at the end of each long semester and before the start of any new session of the Student Government Senate.

**BE IT ENACTED:** That upon passage this legislation shall be forwarded to student body president Connor Clegg and Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Joanne A. Smith for further action.