



Student Government Senate  
Texas State University

LBJ Student Center | Teaching Theater – 7:00 PM  
Eighth Session  
September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Student Government Senate Agenda

### I. Call to Order

### II. Pledge of Allegiance

### III. Roll Call

1. Taken by Senate Clerk-Ashlee Lopez

### IV. Orders of the Day

- A) Amended to remove S.B. Student Labor Relations and Representation Act from agenda
- B) Amended to add appointment to Isiah to New Business

### V. Approval of Minutes

- A) Approved

### VI. Guest Speakers

- A) Vice President of Finance and Support Services Eric Algoe (15 Minutes Max.)

1. Mr. Algoe came to discuss the Clery Act of 1990 and its associated statistics. This act was designed to ensure that universities properly record and report crime statistics. The underlying goal is to provide these crime statistics so that people may analyze and compare the statistics of different universities. These reports include more than just crime, it lists all incidents reported to the police, the Title IX office, and Campus Security Authorities.
2. Additionally, Mr. Algoe is here tonight to address issues concerning the annual security reports for past 3 years, such as the issue of separating statistics from the Round Rock and San Marcos campuses. These year's data were previously misreported but now have been reviewed and reinstated for the 2016 and 2017. The most significant change on the report is the number of rapes reported on campus. In the years 2016 and 2017, rapes were reported at 6 and 0 respectively. They have been corrected to 21 and 15 respectively. These are numbers are average for universities, but Mr. Algoe stated that this number of incidents is still unacceptable. Another section reflecting major change is the reporting of drug violations. In 2016 and 2017, 104 and 103 drug related incidents were reported. These numbers have been corrected to 172 and 403 respectively. For 2018 numbers for rape and drug offenses were 19 and 172 respectively.
3. This incorrect reporting was the result of the program previously used to compile the report data, which failed to comply with Clery Act standards and incorrectly registered the data. To remedy this issues the system has been replaced with one that more accurate can produce reports compliant with Clery Act standards. Additionally, there has been a huge increase in the number of Campus Security Advisors. The Chief of Police Clouse has created a new Clery Compliance committee



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to ensure that this information is accurate. Finally, we have joined the National Clery Center, which offers an additional layer of security to ensure the accuracy of reports moving forward

**B) State Representative Erin Zweiner (15 Minutes Max.)**

- 1.** Rep. Zweiner came to offer an update on the 86th session and to discuss an leadership and training opportunity her campaign is offering. This session focused greatly on public education. State investment in public education has been stagnant in recent years, despite inflation and an increase of students. This year the state paid 34% of student education and the difference was to be paid by property taxes. H.B. III has recently passed, which Rep. Zweiner views as a “band-aid” for the issues regarding public education and strives for a longterm solution. It is an \$11.5 billion package, \$6.5 billion goes directly to public education which is earmarked for raises for educators. It also has provided funding for full day childhood care for qualifying students, more funding for dual language programs. Aid has become more targeted for low income students to better aid the students of low socioeconomic status. The remaining \$5 billion is for property tax reduction. This will be most beneficial to business property, not homes.
- 2.** Sexual assault is another major issue of focus. Legislation was created to address this but failed to get on the floor. So, she has worked to amend the budget to create an audit on sexual assault cases which has successfully initiated the measures outlines in the original legislation. Additionally, H.B. VIII passed which targets the backlog of rape kits in TX. It changed the statute of limitations on sexual assault to begin only after the processing the of rape kit. It also created a new offense called “indecent assault” which makes many assaults previously considered Class C misdemeanors into an arrestable offense. S.B. (2) XII has also created to address the reporting of sexual assaults on campuses. They also worked to increased the funding for universities, to make it easier to transfer community credits to university, to require reporting on students who leave a university for violence offenses, and finally to bar the revocation of professional licenses for failure of paying student loans. Finally, a piece of legislation that passed that did not receive Rep. Zweiner’s vote was a piece regarding free speech on college campuses, that she saw as an attempt to drum up a false narrative around discriminated groups that requires universities to create a discipline measure for students that infringe upon another student free speech.
- 3.** Rep. Zweiner’s campaign is offering a Field School training program this semester that will teach a wide variety of skills and practices associated with running the field side of a campaign. This can lead to a paid internship and ultimately work within the campaign. This is a 6 weekend days that will teach you to use the Voter Activation Network, how to manage data, and more.

**VII. Public Forum**

- A)** A Member of the freshman council and fellow Bobcat came to discuss the behavior of the Student Government. He thanked the members of the body for their work to make Texas State a better place and critiqued their failure to overcome difference and come together to more efficiently enact change. Additionally, he advocated on the appointment of Senator Andrew Florence, and to



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commend his work with the Freshman Council. Finally, he urged all Student Government members to put their differences aside and do their job.

### **VIII. Vice President's Report**

- A) The 1st River Cleanup of this year was hosted this past weekend. There was a good turnout and we've learned a lot of valuable information to better organize the event going forward.
- B) The Student Government Roundtable occurred directly before this meeting and was very successful, V.P. Thompson wanted to extend gratitude to all that came out.
- C) The free menstrual hygiene products will be arrive on the upcoming days. The next course of action will be to establish an organization or club that will be dedicated to this program. He is looking for ideas and feedback on streamlining this program and ensure its permanent stability.
- D) Finally, the No Free Labor Act committee is looking for members, it will be discussed during cabinet meetings

### **IX. Cabinet Reports**

- A) Wicker: Our efforts with MoveTx was really successful. TXST had the most registered voters in just one day with MoveTx
  - 1. First meeting of the safety task force is coming this week. It has accepted 4 people and are looking for more. Accepting all students looking to get involved. They have also absorbed Campus Climate as well.
- B) Gonzalez: Marketing and Outreach is working to create an on-going journal that will summarize information regarding all Student Government chambers and their actions. He is asking for Student Government members to aid in expanding our outreach by promoting the Student Government social media accounts.
  - 1. Additionally, Diversity Week is next week and he is working to create a tool kit with things like sample posts, graphics, email content, to allow members to more easily promote Diversity Week.
- C) Nieves: Offered an update on the comprehensive review of student fees for 2019. This goes over details regarding student fees: what they are and how they're calculated, the budget and what they fund, and how they are used in a line-by-line breakdown. This report has been completed and should be available very soon to the student body.
- D) House Leader Nurung the graduate house is creating a podcast for diversity week and are looking for help from Student Government members to launch this effort and to be guests on the podcast.
- E) Florence: Freshman council has created multiple bills regarding issues concerning the council and have worked to organize outreach socials, they are currently working on planning a volleyball tournament and an ice cream social. They have been a very active and productive body.



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### **X. President's Report**

- A) President Benbow addressed accusations regarding allegations against Senator Florence and a possible abuse of power as the leader of Freshman Leadership. He has spoken to Student Involvement to review the "GroupMe" messages that the allegations stemmed from. Student Involvement concluded that although the conversations may be inappropriate, they did not warrant Senator Florence receiving any type of sanction. Pres. Benbow believes it is important to look at the context of these allegations, and after reviewing the information and the situation he has concluded that the intent of Senator Florence's behavior was not an intentional abuse of power. Pres. Benbow is confident in Senator Florence's ability to lead Freshman Council and does not intend to withdraw his nomination of Senator Florence to the cabinet position of Director of Freshman Leadership. This leaves the power of confirmation in the hands of the senate.
- B) Additionally, he wants to remind Student Government that GroupMe conversations are open to scrutiny. You should not delete messages, as they should be open information. The Vice President should be in all commission and committee GroupMe conversations to allow proper oversight.
- C) President Benbow ran for his position because of his commitment to work for the student body. He does not expect to always agree with every member of the body. Regardless, he was elected to head this body and he does need partisan bickering to impede on the work that Student Government must do. The interests of the student body has to come first.
- D) Finally, the Special election should be happening soon, ideally in November. He is working on a timeline, but there has not an election board established made yet.

### **XI. Old Business**

#### **A) S.R. The Free Speech and Expression Protection Resolution-Passed**

1. Amended in line 72, 102, and in both be it resolved -By Voice Passed
2. Amended to insert section (D) into the first "Be it Resolved" clause- by Voice Passed
3. Amended to change the third "Be it Resolved" clause to call for the inclusion of insert permitters for "PROCEDURES FOR EXCEPTIONS, APPEALS, AND VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY" -By Voice Passed

#### **B) S.B. Student Labor Relations and Representation Act**

#### **C) S.S.R. Confirmation of Andrew Florence as Director of Freshman Leadership**

#### **D) S.R. A Resolution Calling for the Support of a Permanent Space for Bobcat Bounty in the LBJ Student Center**



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E) S.R. A Resolution Calling on Texas State University Police Department to Release all  
UPD Incident Data since 2016

1. Amended in line 55 to add "or provide within 60 days an estimate amount of time to provide said  
report" and line 65 to add "with the report of the estimate" -By voice Passed

2. Amended in line 50 to add "expect information that may be used to identify the suspect or the vic-  
tim" by voice Passed

**XII. New Business**

A) S.R. A Resolution Calling on Texas State University to Implement an Independent Po-  
lice Advisory Council

1. First reading

B) S.S.R. Confirming Shoal Gurvitz to the Position of Senator At-Large

1. First reading

C) S.S.R. Confirming Cody Retz to the position of Senator At-Large

1. First reading

D) S.S.R. Confirming Isiah Trevino to the position of Senator At-Large

1. First reading

**XIII. Adjournment**