

**TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
CONSTITUTION**

Amended April 3, 2014  
Effective April 18, 2014

**PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Texas State University, recognize a need for student centered representation, programs, and services. In an effort to meet this need, we have convened to establish this constitution, subject to the authority of the Texas State University System Board of Regents.

In order to represent the student body of Texas State University, and unite more closely the interests of students, faculty, staff and university administration, we do ordain and establish this constitution for the Student Government of Texas State University.

**ARTICLE I – NAME, PURPOSE, AND STRUCTURE**

- Section 1: The name of the officially recognized student government of Texas State University shall be the “Student Government of Texas State University” or “Student Government”.
- Section 2: The Student Government shall be the primary recognized forum for student opinion, represent the student interests and concerns to the administration, and provide those activities and services it deems useful to students.
- Section 3: The Student Government shall be comprised of the Cabinet, the Student Senate (hereafter referred to as “the Senate”), the Graduate House (hereafter referred to as “the House”) and the courts.
- Section 4: No member shall exercise the powers of more than one office of Student Government. No member shall hold more than one constitutional office.
- Section 5: This constitution shall be the supreme law of Student Government and is the basis for all statutes of Student Government. No member or component of the Student Government shall ever take any action to conflict with, or otherwise violate, this constitution or statutes of the Senate or House.
- Section 6: No member may take undue liberties in the representation of Student Government without authorization from either the House or Senate.
- Section 7: No provisions of this constitution may be declared in conflict with itself or invalid because of a perceived conflict.

## **ARTICLE II – ELECTIONS AND TERMS**

Section 1: General elections shall be held once a year in the spring semester on a date established by the Senate statute.

- (a) The newly elected Student Body President (hereafter referred to as “the President”), Student Body Vice President (hereafter referred to as “the Vice President”), Student Senators (hereafter returned to as “Senators”), and Graduate Representative (hereafter referred to as “Representatives”), will assume the powers of their office at a joint session of the House and Senate two weeks prior to the last Monday of spring classes. This joint session shall constitute a new session of the House and Senate. Sessions of the House and Senate shall be consequently numbered in ascending order starting with the first joint session.
- (b) The President and Vice President shall be sworn in by the university President, or a designee, preferably at the aforementioned joint session or at a public ceremony before this date. Regardless of when the oath is administered, these officers and all other Student Government members shall assume the powers of their office at the joint session as aforementioned.

Section 2: All procedures in this section and related subsections will be done only once in order to establish a two year term of office for Senators and Representatives with one half being elected or selected each year and shall expire thereafter. The Senators and Representatives, the first time they are assembled under this constitution, shall be numbered and divided as equally as possible into two classes by random selection. The seats of the Senators and Representatives of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first session of the new Senate and House. The second class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second session of the Senate and House.

- (a) Any Senator in the first session under this constitution who draws a number over forty-five shall not be included when dividing the Senate into classes and their term shall expire upon the conclusion of the first session of the Senate. Those seats numbered higher than forty-five will not be opened during elections.
- (b) The first Senate or House, whichever has jurisdiction, shall decide how best to execute this section should any unaddressed issues arise.

- Section 3: Excluding the first class of Senators and Representatives when they are first assembled under this Constitution, Senators and Representatives shall have two year terms.
- Section 4: Whenever the Senate or House may have vacancies, and it be filled, it shall be so only for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- Section 5: Each year, after the classes are first divided, Senators and Representatives of a returning class shall declare formally their intent to leave or remain in office six weeks before filing for elected office begins. Any declared vacancies in the returning class shall be filled by the coming elections for the remainder of the class's term.
- Section 6: The President and Vice President shall hold office for a one year term.
- Section 7: No member shall be elected or appointed who is currently on academic or disciplinary probation.
- Section 8: As verified by the Dean of Students office all members must be enrolled at Texas State University and be in good academic standing to participate in Student Government. Additionally, they must meet the requirements for participation in a Chartered Student Organizations as established by university policy.
- (a) The President and Vice President shall be required to have a 2.75 Texas State GPA to be eligible to run for office and while in office maintain at least a 2.25 Texas State GPA. Graduate students wishing to run for either office must have and maintain a 3.0 Texas State GPA.
  - (b) Senators shall be required to have a 2.5 Texas State GPA to be eligible to run for office and while in office maintain at least a 2.25 Texas State GPA. Graduate students wishing to run for Senate must have and maintain a 3.0 Texas State GPA.
  - (c) Representatives shall be required to have and maintain a 3.0 Texas State GPA to run for and remain in office.
- Section 9: The President and Vice President shall be elected by a majority of students voting in an election. Senators shall be elected by a plurality of students voting in an election. Representatives shall be selected by each College Dean by the conclusion of Student Government elections each year.
- Section 10: All members of Student Government shall take an oath and affirmation upon taking office which they are sworn to abide.

### **ARTICLE III – THE STUDENT SENATE**

- Section 1: The Senate shall possess legislative powers of the Student Government, legislate on behalf of all students, and shall exercise the powers stated herein. The Senate shall only legislate:
- (a) To fulfill the purpose of Student Government or enforce the powers granted to it by this constitution through bills which upon passage and approval shall become statute and Student Government law except for those matters that require a bill to be passed by both the Senate and the House, and
  - (b) To grant authorization for members of Student Government to represent the interests of the students to the administration through passage and approval of a resolution.
- Section 2: The Senate shall be the popularly elected representatives of all students.
- Section 3: The Senate shall require a quorum of two-thirds the total voting membership as apportioned by this constitution to open a new session of the Senate, thereafter for general business quorum shall be defined as two-thirds the total membership on the Senate roster at the time roll is called. If the general elections do not fill enough seats to meet the quorum requirement for opening a new session, an automatic special election in the fall shall occur and be concluded by the end of September.
- Section 4: Any action by the Senate must have attained at least a majority vote of the Senate to pass. The Senate may prescribe a higher threshold as it deems necessary.
- Section 5: The Senate shall be comprised of the Vice President, Senators, ex officio Senators and other Senate officers.
- (a) Effective upon the first election under this constitution the Senate shall be apportioned with twenty-nine Senators elected at large by the student body and two students from each college elected by students from their respective college. The following colleges shall be granted representation:
    - 1. The College of Liberal Arts, the College of Fine Arts and Communications, the College of Science and Engineering, the College of Applied Arts, the Emmett & Miriam McCoy College of Business Administration, the College of Health Professions, the College of Education, and University College.
  - (b) Each Senator shall have one vote. Ex officio Senators shall have no vote.
- Section 6: Senators may only vote if they are present and in the room when a vote is called.

Section 7: The Senate must override a Presidential veto of its bills or resolutions at its next regularly scheduled meeting for the override to be valid.

Section 8: The Senate shall transmit passed legislation to the President within five business days, failure to do so shall result in its automatic veto which will be ineligible for override.

Section 9: Through resolution, the Senate shall have the power to:

- (a) Make recommendations or express student opinion to the university administration addressing any issue of student concern,
- (b) Approve student referendums by two-thirds vote,
- (c) Review and, if so choosing, confirm nominations made by the Student Body President and Student Body Vice President,
- (d) Review, oversee, amend, or veto any action taken by the President, Vice President, the Cabinet, a commission, or a committee,
- (e) Override a Presidential veto of its bills or resolutions by two-thirds vote,

Section 10: Through a bill, the Senate shall also have the power to:

- (a) Originate all bills establishing, disbanding, and regulating Student Government commissions,
- (b) Establish, disband and regulate Senate committees,
- (c) Originate all bills for the expenditure, raising, and regulation of all Student Government funds,
- (d) Originate bills establishing a means of disciplinary review and sanction for all members of Student Government and process for the conduct of trials of impeachment and removal,
- (e) Regulate all elections and set the date of general elections,
- (f) Establish rules for the ethics, membership eligibility standards, operations and business of the Student Government,
- (g) Ensure a way to fill vacant Senate seats,
- (h) To regulate the Supreme Court and lower courts
- (i) Establish courts lower to the Supreme Court,

- (j) To legislate all statutes which shall be necessary and proper for execution of all powers granted to all components of Student Government as prescribed in this constitution. The House shall be exempt from Senate regulation unless they approve.

Section 11: The Vice President shall be the Chair of the Senate and the highest ranking member of the Senate.

- (a) The Vice President must be enrolled for a minimum of nine Texas State credit hours, except in the case of a graduate student or any student during their final semester of study at Texas State.
- (b) At the time the Vice President takes office or becomes a candidate for office, he or she must have at least begun a second semester as a Senator. Where a complete semester shall mean that the candidate will have taken office as a Senator by the fourth meeting of any given semester.

Section 12: The Vice President shall:

- (a) Propose the Senate agenda,
- (b) Assume the Office of the President, for the remainder of the term, in the event of its vacancy,
- (c) Nominate officers of the Senate and make replacement nominations in the event of a vacancy of those offices,
- (d) Remove the Chair of any committee,
- (e) Assign and remove Senators to Senate committees,
- (f) Be impartial as Chair of the House and Senate,
- (g) Assign legislation to committees, and
- (h) Vote only in the event of a tie in the House or the Senate.

Section 13: The Senate Pro-Tempore shall be an officer of the Senate, second highest ranking member of the Senate, fulfill the duties of the Vice President in the event the Vice President is unable to do so, and will assume the Office of the Vice President in the event of its vacancy. The Senate Pro-Tempore shall be elected by a majority vote of the Senate by the second meeting of each new session. A candidate for the office of Senate Pro-Tempore must be a Senator sitting in the current session and the selected person must maintain current status as a Senator to retain the position. In the event of a vacancy in the position of Senate Pro-Tempore, a special election in

the Senate will take place no later than the second meeting of the session following the vacancy.

Section 14: Committee chairs shall be members and officers of the Senate. Committee chairs shall be nominated by the first meeting and confirmed by the second meeting of the Senate. Committee chairs shall chair all meetings of the committee.

Section 15: Committees shall be classified differently from commissions based on the following criteria:

- (a) If it only reviews legislation,
- (b) If it only reviews actions of the university,
- (c) If it only reviews nominations to any position within the Student Government,
- (d) If they do not fit the definition of a Commission,
- (e) If so designated by the Senate.

Section 16: The Senate shall meet on the first Monday of the first full week of classes in the fall semester at a time and location as predetermined by the Vice President and thereafter every Monday at that same time and location. The Senate shall not meet on holidays, during the final week of classes in the spring semester, during finals, or any university emergency closure. Any change to the meeting time or place after having been set on the first meeting will require two-thirds approval of the Senate. The time and place of these meetings shall be made public 72 hours beforehand, and the proceedings shall be recorded including final votes of legislation, which shall be made public within 72 hours after the meeting. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures established by the Senate and the basic tenets found in Roberts Rules of Order.

#### **ARTICLE IV – THE GRADUATE HOUSE**

Section 1: The House shall possess legislative powers concerning graduate students, legislate on behalf of graduate students, and shall exercise the powers stated herein. The House shall only legislate:

- (a) Through resolution, expressing the opinion and will of the graduate students at Texas State University, or to concur or reject, when appropriate, Senate bills or resolutions,
- (b) To regulate the House through bills which, when properly passed and approved, will become a statute and Student Government law.

- Section 2: The House shall be the representatives of the graduate students at Texas State University.
- Section 3: The House shall require a quorum of two-thirds the total voting membership as apportioned by this constitution to conduct any business.
- Section 4: The House shall be composed of the Vice President, Representatives, ex officio Representatives and other House officers.
- (a) The House shall be apportioned with two seats for each of the following colleges:
    - 1. College of Liberal Arts, the College of Fine Arts and Communications, the College of Science and Engineering, the College of Applied Arts, the Emmett & Miriam McCoy College of Business Administration, the College of Health Professions, the College of Education.
- Section 5: Any action by the House shall not pass unless it has attained at least a majority vote of the House; the House may prescribe a higher threshold as it deems necessary. Each Representative shall have one vote. Ex officio members shall have no vote.
- Section 6: Representatives may only vote if they are present and in the room when the vote is called.
- Section 7: The House shall have limited regulatory power over the rest of Student Government but shall exercise exclusive rights over the regulation of the House through bills which shall:
- (a) Establish rules, eligibility standards, operations and business of the House,
  - (b) Regulate selection of its members and fill vacancies as needed, and
  - (c) Establish House committees, which shall follow the same criteria for classification as a committee as is done in the Senate, as it sees fit.
- Section 8: Through resolution, the House shall have other powers, including:
- (a) Make recommendations or express the opinion of the graduate student body to the university administration,
  - (b) Concur or reject, without amendment, Senate changes to rules regarding ethics, member performance standards, discipline, and budget processes in order for any such bill originating in the Senate to be considered passed and sent to the President for approval and enactment,

- (c) Override a Presidential veto of its bills or resolutions by two-thirds vote,
- (d) Confirm the graduate Associate Justice of the Supreme Court,
- (e) Confirm graduate students nominated to university committees and other Student Government positions, and
- (f) Confirm House committee chair nominations.

Section 9: The Vice President shall be Chair of the House and the highest ranking member of the House.

Section 10: The House Leader shall be an officer and second highest ranking member of the House, and shall fulfill the Vice President's House duties in the event of the Vice President's absence. The House Leader shall be elected by a majority of the House at the second meeting of each new session of the House. A candidate for the office of House Leader must be a Representative sitting in the current session and the selected person must maintain current status as a Representative to retain the position. In the event of a vacancy in the position of House Leader, a special election in the House will take place no later than the second meeting of the session following the vacancy.

Section 11: The House shall transmit legislation to the President within five business days of its passage, failure to do so shall result in its automatic veto which shall be ineligible for override.

Section 12: The House must override a Presidential veto of its bills or resolutions at its next regularly scheduled meeting for the override to be valid.

Section 13: The chairs of any House committees shall be officers of the House and shall be nominated by the House Leader on the first meeting of the new session of the House. The House Leader will nominate a committee chair replacement should a vacancy occur.

Section 14: The House shall meet on the first Friday of the first full week of classes in the fall semester and thereafter every other Friday at that same time and location, until the last week of classes in the spring. The House shall not meet on holidays, during the final week of classes in the spring, during finals, or emergency university closures. Any change to meeting time or place after having been set on the first meeting will require a two-thirds approval of the House. The time and place of these meetings shall be made public 72 hours before hand and the proceedings shall be recorded, including final votes of legislation which shall be made public within 72 hours after the meeting. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules established by the House and the tenets in Roberts Rules of Order.

## **ARTICLE V – THE CABINET**

- Section 1: The Cabinet shall supervise, manage, and execute the various functions of Student Government and shall advise and report to the President on all such functions.
- Section 2: The Cabinet shall consist of the President, Vice President, the Senate Pro-Tempore, House Leader, Supreme Court Chief Justice, the chairs of each commission, and others as the Senate so establishes. The President will serve as Chair and may authorize informal, ex officio members of the Cabinet.
- Section 3: The President shall have all executive powers and be the chief executive of Student Government.
- Section 4: The President must be enrolled for a minimum of nine Texas State credit hours, except in the case of graduate students or any student in their final semester of study.
- Section 5: The President shall:
- (a) Upon authorization of the House or Senate, and after affixing his or her signature to a bill or resolution, primarily pursue its enactment or execution,
  - (b) Enforce and faithfully execute this constitution, the rules, regulations and statutes of Student Government,
  - (c) Have the power to call for a special elections to fill vacancies in the Senate,
  - (d) Be the representative of all students,
  - (e) With at least five business days' notice, call special or emergency meetings of the House and Senate,
  - (f) Call for joint sessions of the House and Senate,
  - (g) Nominate the Chairs of Commissions,
  - (h) Have the power to remove the Chair of any commission,
  - (i) Appoint members to serve on commissions,
  - (j) Have the power to remove any person serving on a commission,
  - (k) Nominate Justices and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and nominate all members of lower courts,
  - (l) Approve, through signature, House and Senate bills and resolutions,

- (m) Veto House, Senate and joint bills and resolutions,
- (n) Coordinate, manage, and supervise the activities of the Cabinet and commissions,
- (o) Have absolute veto of any action of the Cabinet,
- (p) Report to the House and Senate each year on the State of the Student Body and conduct other reports as he or she desires or as called to do so by the Senate.

Section 6: Commissions shall provide for and execute specific functions of Student Government. Commissions shall be classified differently from committees based on the following criteria:

- (a) Provide a service, program, or coordinate a project used by students,
- (b) Are charged with any responsibility that requires the expenditure of funds in order for the responsibility to be executed successfully, excluding the cost of meetings, and
- (c) Are established as such specifically by Senate statute.

Section 7: Commissions shall:

- (a) Coordinate or fulfill a responsibility of Student Government,
- (b) Make official records of votes,
- (c) Keep a record of its proceedings for public review,
- (d) Be assigned legislation that relates to its established purpose,
- (e) Amend and approve bills related to its operations before its final consideration before the Senate,
- (f) Have one House member as an ex officio member and at least two Senators as members, excluding the Chair.

Section 8: The Chair of each of the commissions shall :

- (a) Be members of the Cabinet,
- (b) Must have attained at least twenty-four Texas State credit hours.

- (c) Be a Senator, or they shall become an ex officio Senator upon confirmation as Commission Chair. They shall be held to the same expectations as other ex officio Senators.
- (d) Commission Chairs shall have administrative, supervisory, and management powers over their commission and shall report to and take directions from the President.
- (e) They shall coordinate all activities of the commission and make a report to the House and Senate on a semesterly basis or when called to do so.

Section 9: The Cabinet shall advise the President on the activity of their companionate of Student Government.

Section 10: No one may ever amend or alter a properly passed statute or action of the House and Senate without the permission of the originating legislative body, except to bring it into compliance with grammatical standards, university policy or local, state, and federal laws. In the event an amendment or alteration must be made under this section, the President shall be responsible for reporting the specific changes at the next regular meeting of the House and Senate and the changes shall be recorded in the meeting minutes.

## **ARTICLE VI – THE COURTS**

Section 1: The courts shall consist of the Supreme Court, and other courts lower to the Supreme Court.

- (a) “Courts” for the purposes of Student Government are defined as the sub-components of Student Government which may hear testimony and provide remedy to specific cases where this constitution does not provide the Supreme Court direct jurisdiction. Examples of this include but are not limited to; minor disciplinary issues, election related violations, and maintenance of ethical and performance standards. In these cases, and others, the Senate may establish other judicial bodies that will hear specific cases as it sees fit. In the interest of flexibility these lower courts are not listed in the constitution.
- (b) The Senate cannot establish lower courts with overlapping jurisdiction.
- (c) The only appeals court will be the Supreme Court.

Section 2: The Supreme Court shall be the superior court and only appellate court within the Student Government. The Supreme Court shall have the power of Judicial Review in relation to the constitutionality of any action of Student Government. The

Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction involving cases between two or more components of Student Government or any issues of constitutional interpretations.

- (a) The Supreme Court shall decide by a majority vote which subjects it shall hear.
- (b) In matters concerning other rules and regulations where the Senate has established other courts, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction.
- (c) The Supreme Court shall be the final interpreter of all legislative or policy instruments in this constitution for the Student Government.
- (d) The Supreme Court shall interpret the constitution but shall make no judgment, opinion or order relating to the constitutions validity or correctness. The same restriction shall apply to all courts.
- (e) When the Supreme Court has reached a majority decision, it shall issue orders and opinions which shall be binding for all members. Any person in violation of these opinions or orders shall be considered in violation of this constitution. This same power shall be granted to other courts should the Senate so decide.
- (f) The Supreme Court shall have the power to summon members to appear before it and require the production of documents, pending approval by the Dean of Students. This same power shall be granted to other courts should the Senate so decide.
- (g) The Supreme Court and all lower courts shall provide relief and remedy to issues deemed actionable under its jurisdiction.
- (h) Members of the Supreme Court shall never petition the court, present evidence, provide testimony, or embrace any subject before them or any other courts or tribunals.

Section 3: There shall be seven Supreme Court justices, of which at least one shall be a graduate student. From the seven justices one shall be selected to serve as Chief Justice.

- (a) The court shall never hear a case while having fewer than three justices seated on the Supreme Court and are present at the courts proceedings.
- (b) An evenly divided court shall always result in an affirmation of the lower court until such time as the court comes to a majority decision.

- (c) Justices shall hold office for a term of two years.
- (d) In case the court cannot hear arguments due to the number of justices seated, the Dean of Students shall assume all powers of the court.

Section 4: The Supreme Court shall have the power to, by three-fourths affirmative vote of all justices, impeach any member who violates the orders and opinions of the Supreme Court or other courts and refer them to the Senate or House for removal.

Section 5: Decisions of lower courts shall be first appealed to the Supreme Court.

Section 6: Decisions of the Supreme Court may be appealed to the Dean of Students and then to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Section 7: Members of Supreme Court shall not be candidates nor publicly support candidates for Student Government office.

#### **ARTICLE VII – IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

Section 1: Impeachment shall not be vetoed nor need the approval of the President. Impeachable acts shall include;

- (a) Violation(s) of the rules, regulations and laws of the Student Government,
- (b) Violation(s) of this constitution,
- (c) Violation(s) of orders or opinions of the Supreme Court or other courts;
- (d) Gross violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct and university polices,
- (e) Dereliction of duty,
- (f) Conviction of any federal, state, or local crime above that of a class C misdemeanor.

Section 2: To impeach a member of the courts, Senate, House, Cabinet or duly nominated and confirmed member of Student Government, Articles of Impeachment with allegations and reasoning must be signed by, but not limited to, three Senators or three Representatives naming the accused being charged and submitted to a review commission.

- (a) Impeachment trials for Representatives and graduate students who are appointed to the courts shall be conducted in the House.

- (b) Impeachment trials for Senators, the Cabinet and positions not otherwise stipulated along with all undergraduate members of the courts shall be conducted in the Senate.
- (c) Impeachment trials of the President and Vice President shall be conducted in a joint session of the House and Senate.
- (d) The Articles of Impeachment must be read to the House or Senate, whichever has jurisdiction, during a regularly held meeting by one of the signatories after it has been sent to the review commission.
- (e) To impeach the President or Vice President, Articles of Impeachment with allegations and reasoning must be signed by, but not limited to, three Senators and three Representatives naming the accused being charged.

Section 3: A review commission shall investigate the allegations presented in the Articles of Impeachment within five business days of it being submitted.

- (a) The review commission will make no decision before the Articles of Impeachment have been read before the House or Senate, whichever has jurisdiction.
- (b) If any member of the review commission is accused in the Articles of Impeachment that member shall recuse him or herself of all proceedings.

Section 4: If the accused is impeached by the review commission, that member shall lose the powers of his or her office until the conclusion of the trial. Upon the member's impeachment, the Senate or House, depending on jurisdiction, shall conduct a trial at the next regular meeting, or specially called meeting for that purpose. The trial will be open to the public. If the President or Vice President is on trial, or the chair cannot be impartial the Supreme Court Chief Justice shall chair the trial. A vote will be conducted and a two-thirds vote shall constitute removal.

Section 5: Any member removed from office shall have 48 hours to vacate Student Government offices and relinquish any Student Government property. They shall never again be allowed to hold office in Student Government. Appeal of removal must go to the Dean of Students, then the Vice President for Student Affairs and finally the university President, in that order. Persons receiving a wage shall receive that wage until such time as they have exhausted all appeals. Should the member be acquitted he or she shall reassume the powers of his or her office and the case shall be closed. No person shall be subject to double jeopardy, separate from legal or other university judicial proceedings. Any members wishing to

appeal his or her removal shall have three business days between each level to do so.

Section 6: During any disciplinary proceeding, the accused must be afforded certain rights, and the accused shall have certain obligations which shall include:

- (a) A right to be informed of and address the charges against them,
- (b) An obligation to appear before any impeachment proceeding to answer questions and address the charges against them, and
- (c) An obligation to answer questions truthfully.

### **ARTICLE VIII - RATIFICATION**

Section 1: Upon ratification and approval, this constitution shall supersede all other Student Government constitutions and shall render all court opinions, advisory measures, laws and precedents invalid.

Section 2: This constitution shall be ratified after a two-thirds vote of the Senate and a majority vote of students during a referendum and approval from the university President. This constitution shall take effect 15 days after its ratification by the previous student government and approval by the university President.

Section 3: A transitional committee will be established by the previous student government to include no more than five members: two undergraduate students, two graduate students and the Dean of Students as chair. This committee shall be constitutionally empowered to decide, with the Dean of Students approval, by what methods to best transition from the previous constitution and resolve any issues which shall arise during this transition. This interim period and transitional committee's power shall last no longer than 6 months. When and how the committee should be selected will be determined by the House and Senate under the previous constitution.

Section 4: This constitution shall supersede all other constitutions and shall make void all rules and regulations established before its ratification, unless those rules are specifically paired with this constitution.

Section 5: This constitution may not be amended for three years after the interim period and only in three year intervals thereafter.

### **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: Proposed amendments may be initiated by petition of one-tenth of the student body at Texas State University, by a majority vote of the House or Senate.

Section 2: Amendments initiated by the House or Senate shall require two-thirds vote by a joint session of the House and Senate, in addition to approval by a vote of the student body to be ratified. Amendments to this constitution shall not require Presidential approval and are not subject to Presidential veto.

Section 3: This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the House and Senate, without a referendum vote of the students, to comply with university policy, procedures, rules and regulations, or federal, state, and local laws.

### **ARTICLE X – STUDENT BODY RIGHTS**

Section 1: All students enrolled at Texas State University at the time of an election or referendums are eligible to vote in said elections and referendums.

Section 2: Upon petition of one-tenth of the Texas State University student body, propositions stated in petition shall be validated and be placed on the ballot in accordance with university policy.

Section 3: All students enrolled at Texas State University have the opportunity to attend the public forum section of the House, Senate and Supreme Court.

Section 4: Any powers not granted to the Student Government shall be granted to the House, Senate or the student body.

Section 5: The student body may recall any elected position of Student Government, removing them from office, by way of a student referendum so long as the recall shall have been passed by a majority of students voting in a referendum for that purpose.