



**Student Government Senate
Texas State University**

**LBJ Student Center | Teaching Theater – 7:00 PM
Eighth Session
September 16th, 2019**

Student Government Senate Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Orders of the Day

A) Amended to prioritize the Budget Act before the Living Wage Act; Voted by Voice- Passed

B) Amended to make new business A,B,F,G,H into emergency pieces; Voted by Voice-Passed

V. Approval of Minutes

VI. Guest Speakers

A) Associate Justice William Frank-Cadoree (10 Minutes Max.)

1. Associate Justice Frank-Cadoree came to speak on behalf of the Student Government Supreme Court. He addressed the issues that occurred last Monday, September 9th, in regards to the failure to meet quorum which resulted in the Senates early adjournment. This early adjournment led to a number of pieces of legislation to be table till the following meeting. Because there are currently only two sitting members of the Court, they are unable to properly function. The Senate's failure to meet quorum facilitated their inability to preform by not fulfilling its duty to consider the nominees listed on September 9th agenda.

B) Sylvia Gonzales: Director, Developing HSI Programs-STEM Impact & Maestros; Nina Wright, Margaret Garry, Karla H-Swift; Victoria Reyes, Edgar Torres, Isidoro Martinez. (15 Minutes Max.)

1. Speakers discussed the history of Hispanic Serving Institutions Programs as a whole and in regards to TXST. They work to engage the community, celebrate the Hispanic culture, and giving back to the community. They are working to connect students with one another and faculty through TXST's first ever HSI meet-up. They further work to serve the institution by supporting equality, inclusion, and diversity as well as supporting the success of STEM. They also offer the SURE (STEM Undergraduate Research Program) which offers Lightning Rounds for recruitment and a 10 week long program offering hands-on experience, professional development, and conference travel. They also work with faculty and staff to offer fully versed STEM mentors.

2.3 student members of the SURE program gave brief testimony of their experiences within the program, attesting to the hands-on experiences, the extent of research done, the networking opportunities available, and the benefits of the mentorship offered. Further, they discussed the competitive compensation offered to those working within the SURE program, which both offered a \$15/hr wages and a \$2000 stipend for conference travel expenses.

VII. Public Forum

VIII. Vice President's Report

A)VP Thompson addressed concerns regarding the length of senate meetings, he will be meeting with the Committee Chairs to discussed ways to remedy the issue.

B)He further discussed the Safety Task Force’s ‘Safe Ride Program’. This will offer a 24hr ride-share program offered in designated locations of campus that will work similarly to Uber, offering transportation off campus. Additionally, there has been discussions regarding the expansion of the Bobcat Bobbies to the TXST Round Rock campus.

1.The Safety Walk is being organized, which will work to improve lighting on campus by taking volunteer groups of students around campus to pinpoint poorly lit areas. If there are any organization requiring volunteer hours, this is a great way to fulfill that.

2.Finally, VP Thompson discussed the Student Government hosted River Clean Up. Because the city of San Marcos will be holding one on Friday, Oct 5th the Student Government make look to incorporate our efforts with theirs. This will be further discussed as it may conflict with a scheduled Student Government Retreat.

IX. Cabinet Reports

A)Senator Wicker: Regarding the safety issues previously discussed, there is currently a safety task force through student government that only has two members and is looking for more to join. All student as welcome and we are looking for additional members.

B)Senator Nieves: Star Grant Program is currently taking applications. Although funding is limited, there is still time to apply.

C) Chief of Staff Sotelo: Tomorrow is Constitution Day and Student Government will have a booth in the LBJ mall. They will be handing out donuts, pocket constitutions and buttons.

D) Senator Tichy: The Senate Select Committee had 3 interviews this week and still has 2 more to do.

X. President’s Report

A)President Benbow addressed the Texas Tribune article that was published this past weekend. He stressed the importance of paying attention to the actions of the university’s administration, as we rely on them to ensure and understand our safety. He stated that the administration has been aware of the information that was release in the article since last spring while highlighting the issues with transparency occurring within the administration. Lastly, he stressed the importance of holding the administration accountable for their action.

B) ‘ XII A. Confirming of Joshua Clarke’ to be addressed before Old Business -Voted by Voice-Passed

XI. Old Business

A)S.B. Budget Authorization Act of 2019 -Passed

1.Amended to account for the increase in money and to show a clearer breakdown of the allocation of Student Government funding. -Passed by Voice



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a. Amendment amended to reallocate additional funding into Freshman Council and the Student Services Commission (listed as the Student Affairs Commission) -Passed by Voice:

- i. -\$400 Discretionary funds, -\$50 Student Advancement, +\$450 Freshman Council
- ii. -\$100 Student Advancement Commission, +\$100 Student Services Commission

B) S.R. The Living Wage Act -Passed

1. Amended to adjust the timeframe in which the legislation is implemented to reflect the 2020-2021 fiscal year – By Voice Passed

a. Amended to retitle the piece “ A Resolution Calling on the University to Establish a New Institutional Minimum Wage”-By Voice Passed

b. Amended to change lines 37-51 and correct grammatical errors- By Voice Passed

XII. New Business

A) J.R. Confirming Mr. Joshua Clarke as a Justice of the Supreme Court- Passed

1. Piece was made emergency
2. Piece was prioritized and addressed before Old Business Pieces
3. Senate members opened the floor to ask the nominee questions

B) S.S.R. Confirming Matthew Gonzales as Director of Marketing and Outreach -Passed

1. Made an Emergency Piece
2. Senator Gonzales spoke of his intentions as Director of Marketing and Outreach, such as a desire to highlight programs that are available to students through the university, to create a Student Government publication, to enhance transparency and to utilize outreach to help bring positive change the culture at TXST.

C) S.B. Student Labor Relations and Representation Act

1. First Reading

D) S.B. No Free Labor Act

1. First Reading

E) S.R. The Affordable Homework Resolution

1. First Reading

F) S.B. Standing Rules Update Act -Tabled till 9/23

1. Piece made Emergency

2. 16 major changes to the piece were introduced by the Author such as but not limited to: granting the Senate the power to elect the Senate Pro-Tempore, making the position of Parliamentarian elected by the senate, streamlining the position of Senate Clerk, removing the playing of the national anthem before meetings, exclusively ensuring that the final votes over the passage of legislation be done by role, establishing a mechanism for non-binding polling regarding decisions of the house, establishing the ability to remove a sitting Pro-Tempore or Parliamentarian from their position without removing them from their Senate seat, and removing the Supreme Court Chief Justice from the Senate roster and replace it with the Pro-Tempore or Parliamentarian.

a. Line 210 amended to change “male and female members” to “senate members” -By Voice Passed

b. Amended to reflect the changes before line 302 -By Voice Passed

c. Line 245 Amended to reflect spelling corrections -By Voice Passed

d. Amended to grant the Vice President the power to correct or reject legislation that are improperly formatted -By Voice Passed

e. Amended to reflect the all changes between lines 302-499 - By voice Passed

f. Amended to reflect lines changes to lines 499-506 -By Voice Passed

3. Piece tabled till 9/23 to allow further time and consideration of the piece.

G) S.B. Nomination Review Clarification Act- Tabled till 9/23

H)S.S.R. Establishing the Student’s Rights Committee -Passed

1. Piece made Emergency

XIII. Adjournment

A) Adjourned at 11:02