Bob-Kittens Voter Registration Policy

To encourage Texas State University’s Department of Housing and Residential Life to provide mail in voter registration cards in all move in packets.

WHEREAS: Most students are of legal voting age; and

WHEREAS: As members of Student Government, we value civic engagement and representation; and

WHEREAS: Texas State students care about their civic engagement and representation (Sandra Sadek, Battle Erupts for Extended Early Voting at Texas State University); and

WHEREAS: Many Texas State University incoming freshmen will be first time voters; and

WHEREAS: College students have incredibly busy schedules or difficulty knowing how to register to vote; and

WHEREAS: In the November 2017 General Election, 1.07% of Precinct 334’s registered voters participated (Hays County, Texas Unofficial Canvass Report Total Voters November 7, 2017 General Election, Hays County Government Website); and

WHEREAS: Campus resides inside Hays County Precinct 334 and 413; and

WHEREAS: Voter suppression is a strategy to influence the outcome of an election by discouraging or preventing specific groups of people from voting (1965 Voting Rights Act); and

WHEREAS: Neglecting the needs of underrepresented populations in a way that discourages their voter engagement is voter suppression; and

WHEREAS: Voter precinct 334 and 413 historically has the lowest voter turnout in San Marcos; and
WHEREAS: Students need access to register to vote when they move onto campus; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: Texas State University Student Government calls on Texas State University administration and the Department of Housing and Residential Life to coordinate and secure voter registration mail-in cards for all students that reside in their dorms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Texas State University administration work to ensure that all students have fair access to register to vote; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That upon passage, this Simple Resolution be forwarded to the Student Body President for further action.