

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATION BY-LAWS

(Created by the Election Code Committee, April 2011)

SECTION I: Purpose:

- A. To have a procedure by which all legislation is passed in the student government association.
- B. To avoid confusion when passing legislation.
- C. To list the legislative powers of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches.

ARTICLE I: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SECTION II: Student senate

- A. All bills, amendments, and proposals shall be submitted to the Student Senate first.
- B. First Reading
The bill shall be read to the Student Senate by either the individual or group proposing the legislation, or the Senate Pro Tempore.
- C. Second Reading
Following proper parliamentary procedure, the floor shall be opened up to discussion and debate. Any senator may move to amend the presented legislation, which requires a majority vote from the Student Senate.
- D. Final Reading
Following discussion, debate, and amendments, the legislation shall be voted on. Legislation requires a majority or two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass, depending on the type of legislation being voted on.

SECTION III: Student House

- A. First reading
The legislation shall be read to the Student House of Representatives by either the individual or group proposing the legislation, or the Speaker of the House.
- B. Second Reading
Following proper parliamentary procedure, the floor shall be opened up to discussion and debate. Any representative may move to amend the presented legislation, which requires a majority vote from the Student House of Representatives.
- C. Final Reading
Following discussion, debate, and amendments, the legislation shall be voted on. Legislation requires a majority or two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass, depending on the type of legislation being voted on.
- D. If the legislation passes in both the Student House of Representatives and in the Student Senate, the legislation then goes to the president. If the legislation fails in both the Student House and Student Senate, the legislation is discarded. If one body passes the legislation while the other fails it, the legislation then goes on to a Conference Committee.

SECTION IV: Conference Committee

- A. The conference committee is a temporary committee consisting of the Chief Justice, the Student Body President, the Student Body Vice President, the Speaker of the House, the Senate Pro Tempore, one House member for the legislation, one House member against the legislation, one Senator for the legislation, and one Senator against it. The Chief Justice shall serve as head of the Committee and only votes in the event of a tie.
- B. The committee shall meet no later than fourteen (14) days after the vote was taken and shall pass or fail the legislation following a majority vote.
- C. If the legislation is passed, it then goes to the Student Body President. If it fails, it is discarded.

ARTICLE II: EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SECTION I: The President

- A. After being passed in the legislative branch, the legislation comes to the President. The President has ten (10) days to sign or veto the legislation. If the President does not act in ten days, the legislation becomes Student Government law.
- B. If the President signs it, the legislation becomes Student Government law.
- C. If the President vetoes the legislation, it goes back to the Student Senate and Student where a two-thirds (2/3) from both bodies can override the veto. If the veto is overturned, the legislation becomes Student Government law.

SECTION II: Executive Council

After legislation becomes Student Government law, it is the duty of the Executive Council to enforce the law, regardless of personal opinions.

ARTICLE III: JUDICIAL BRANCH

SECTION I: The Judiciary

- A. During the approval process or after the passage of any legislature, the Judiciary can hold a meeting to determine the Constitutionality of any bill, amendment, or proposal. A two-thirds (2/3) of the Judiciary can overturn any legislation passed.
- B. It is the duty of the Judiciary to enforce any amendment made to the Student Government Constitution or By-laws.

Official Legislation By-laws are kept on file in the office of the Student Government Association Advisor