



111<sup>th</sup> STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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**Executive Summary**

**A.B. 12: Amending the Code of Rules and Procedures to Restructure Title I**

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As part of the 2017-18 reform for the Code of Rules and Procedures, this bill restructures Title I which pertains to the meeting rules for the Student Government Assembly. It empowers the Speaker of the Assembly to select MORE WORDS HERE. The amendments for this section were predominantly written by the Speaker of the Assembly, Madison Huerta, with the input of the other authors.

# A.B. 12

## Amending the Code of Rules and Procedures to Restructure Title I

IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

SEC 1: Amend Title I in the Code of Rules and Procedures as follows:

### Chapter 1

#### ASSEMBLY MEETING RULES

#### Article I

##### ASSEMBLY AGENDA

- Sec 1.1 The agenda for the Assembly meeting shall have the following ~~items-format~~:
- (a) Call to Order;
  - (b) First Roll Call;
  - (c) Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Assembly Meeting;
  - (d) Guests;
  - (e) Open Forum;
  - (f) Appointments:
    - (i) Assembly Appointments;
    - (ii) Internal Appointments;
    - (iii) External Appointments;
    - (iv) All appointments shall be sworn-in by the Chief Justice or a Justice of the Supreme Court;

- (g) New Business;
- (h) Unfinished Business;
- ~~(h) New Business;~~
- (i) Ex-Officio Member Reports:
  - (i) Senate of College Councils;
  - (ii) Graduate Student Assembly;
  - (iii) Campus Events and Entertainment;
- (j) Student Affairs ~~Deputy Advisor~~ Reports;
- (k) Executive ~~Board~~ Reports;
- ~~(a) Cabinet of Policy Director Reports;~~
- ~~(a) Agency Director Reports;~~
- ~~(a) External Appointment Reports;~~
- ~~(a) Executive Staff Reports;~~
- ~~(a) Standing Assembly Committee Reports;~~
- ~~(a) Representative Reports;~~
- (l) Judicial Reports;
- ~~(a) Ad hoc Reports;~~
- (m) ~~Speaker of the~~ Assembly Reports;
- (n) Speaker of the Assembly Report;
- (o) General Announcements;
- (p) Second Roll Call;
- (q) Recess/Adjournment.

## Article II

### INTRODUCTORY PORTION

- Sec. 2.1 CALL TO ORDER. The Speaker of the Assembly shall call the meeting to order at the time and place previously publicized ~~at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting.~~
- Sec. 2.2 FIRST ROLL CALL. The Speaker of the Assembly shall instruct the Clerk of the Assembly to call the roll of ~~sitting membership of the Assembly standing Assembly membership.~~
- (a) The Clerk of the Assembly shall ~~provide make~~ the records of each roll call to the Communications Director to be published. ~~publicly available within seventy-two (72) hours of the roll being taken.~~
- Sec. 2.3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY MEETING. Having examined and approved the Minutes of the last meeting's proceedings, the Speaker shall announce to the Assembly approval thereof. The Speaker's approval of the Minutes shall be deemed agreed to unless a Representative demands a vote thereon or offers an amendment. All amendments to the Minutes shall be given to the Speaker in writing who will present them to the Assembly. Should the Speaker choose to accept the amendment, the Minutes shall be revised to reflect the amendment. ~~The Speaker of the Assembly shall call for amendments to the published minutes from the previous Assembly meeting and call for formal approval of the minutes by standing Assembly membership.~~



- (a) ~~If amendments are presented, the presenting representative must provide the amendment in writing to the Speaker of the Assembly, who shall notify the Assembly of the amendment.~~
  - (b) ~~If disagreement arises over the amendment's accuracy by standing members of the Assembly, the Speaker of the Assembly shall instruct the Clerk of the Assembly to review the recording of the meeting in question and the Clerk shall determine the accuracy of the amendment and whether or not to advise the Speaker to accept it.~~
  - (c) ~~Should the Speaker of the Assembly choose to accept the amendment, the official minutes shall be revised to reflect the amendment.~~
- Sec. 2.4 GUESTS. The Speaker of the Assembly may arrange to invite special guest speakers to advise, inform, and present information to the Assembly at his/her discretion. ~~(a) Each guest presentation shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes with five (5) minutes additional time for questions and answers.~~
- ~~(b) The deadline for placing guests on the agenda is Sunday at 9:00PM before the meeting in question.~~
- Sec. 2.5 OPEN FORUM. Any guest at an Assembly meeting shall be allowed to speak ~~for up to two (2) minutes each~~ during Open Forum.
- (a) Open Forum shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes total.
  - (b) At least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the meeting in question, the Speaker of the Assembly shall ~~set up display the web address for a digital~~ sign-up sheet for guests who wish to speak during Open Forum.
  - (c) Order of speaking shall be determined on a first-come first-serve basis.
- Sec. 2.6 APPOINTMENTS. The Assembly shall provide advice and consent for all executive, judicial, and legislative nominations in accordance with UTSG governing documents. ~~(a) Each nominee and the question and answer session related to each nomineehim/her~~ shall not exceed more than three (3) minutes total.

### Article III

#### ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

- Sec. 3.12 NEW BUSINESS. During the period of new business, the authors and sponsors of the legislation shall introduce the legislation to the Assembly for a period of three (3) minutes. The authors and sponsors shall then answer questions regarding the legislation for up to five (5) minutes. Following the referral of all new business to an Assembly committee, the Speaker shall announce the meeting time and location of the assigned committee.
- Sec. 3.24 UNFINISHED BUSINESS. During the period of unfinished business, all legislation that received a favorable recommendation from its respective committee shall be discussed, debated, and voted upon.
- (a) Legislation shall be introduced for its second reading by a member of the standing Assembly committee to which it was assigned.
  - (b) Legislation shall then be re-introduced ~~for its second reading~~ by the authors and sponsors ~~and chair of the committee that gave it a favorable recommendation.~~
  - (c) Re-introduction of legislation shall not exceed ~~three (3) five (5)~~ minutes, with an additional ~~five (5) three (3)~~ minutes allotted for questions and answers.

- (d) If a ~~Representative or Executive Board member of the Assembly~~ wishes to speak in opposition of the legislation, they may take the podium opposite of the authors and sponsors. If any member takes such action, the Assembly shall enter debate on the question of approving the legislation. The following rules shall apply for debate on this question:
- (i) ~~During this time, members of the Assembly, including ex-officio members may participate in debate on the question.~~ The Speaker of the Assembly shall designate a microphone for the opposition and proposition.
  - (ii) The Speaker of the Assembly shall allot equal time to both the opposition and proposition.
  - (iii) The author(s) of legislation will have control of the proposition and can decide on how time is allotted to different proponents of their legislation.
  - (iv) The opposition will divide its time equally for the different members seeking to speak.
  - (v) For amendments, each member is allowed to speak once on any single amendment for up to three (3) minutes each time at the microphone.
  - (vi) Any ex-officio member of the Assembly may join either side of the debate.
  - (vii) Any student may be yielded time by the proposition or the opposition during the debate. ~~member wishing to yield the floor to any other member or non-member may do so. If the non-member yields the floor back to the member, the member shall be allowed the remaining time germane to the discussion.~~
  - (viii) No personal attacks shall be made by any person during the Assembly meeting. If an attack is made by one person to another, that person shall lose debate privileges regarding the main and secondary motion on that topic.
  - (ix) During the meeting and debate, no member shall engage in offensive remarks, profane language, personal attacks, or any disrespectful action announced by the Speaker of the Assembly. Upon objection by another member, the Speaker of the Assembly shall decide if a remark or conduct constitutes offense and issue a warning.

~~Amendments to legislation presented on the floor of the Assembly during the second reading shall be presented to the Speaker of the Assembly. The presenting representative must provide the amendment in writing to the Speaker of the Assembly, who shall notify the Assembly of the amendment.~~

~~Sec. 3.2 NEW BUSINESS. During the period of new business, the authors and sponsors of the legislation shall introduce the legislation to the Assembly for a period of three (3) minutes. The authors and sponsors shall then answer questions regarding the legislation for up to five (5) minutes. Following the referral of all new business to an Assembly committee, the Speaker shall announce the meeting time and location of the assigned committee.~~

## Article IV

### EX-OFFICIO AND EXECUTIVE REPORTS



- Sec. 4.1 EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS. Any ex-officio member, as stipulated by UTSG governing documents, shall present a report if they would like to inform the Assembly of their progress in their professional capacities.
- Sec. 4.2 ~~STUDENT AFFAIRS~~ ~~DEPUTY ADVISOR~~ REPORTS. The Deputy Advisor to the Dean of Students or a representative from their office shall present a report to discuss any pertinent issues related to the Office of the Dean of Students.
- Sec. 4.3 EXECUTIVE ~~BOARD~~ REPORTS.
- (a) EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS. Members of the Executive Board, as stipulated by UTSG governing documents, shall deliver reports discussing their progress related to the daily operations of Student Government at each Assembly meeting. These reports shall not exceed ~~fifteen~~ ~~five~~ (15) minutes in total ~~per report~~.
- (b) EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS. Any member of Student Government who serves in the Executive Branch who wishes to speak shall deliver a report discussing their progress in their respective appointment and any special projects they are working on.
- Sec. 4.4 ~~CABINET OF POLICY DIRECTOR REPORTS. Policy Directors shall deliver reports discussing their progress in managing the different agencies that they oversee.~~
- ~~These reports shall not exceed five (5) minutes per report. [1]~~
- ~~Policy Directors shall regularly attend meetings to discuss the progress of their respective agencies and gain feedback from the Assembly.~~
- Sec. 4.5 ~~AGENCY DIRECTOR REPORTS. Agency Directors shall deliver reports discussing the progress of their agency and any special projects they are organizing.~~
- (a) ~~These reports shall not exceed five (5) minutes per agency report.~~
- (a) ~~Agency Directors shall regularly attend meetings to discuss the progress of their agencies and gain feedback from the Assembly.~~
- Sec. 4.6 ~~EXTERNAL APPOINTMENT REPORTS. External Appointees shall deliver a report discussing their progress in their respective appointment. This report shall not exceed five (5) minutes and will serve as an opportunity for appointees to discuss their progress with the Assembly.~~
- Sec. 4.7 ~~EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORTS. Members of the Executive Staff shall deliver report discussing their progress in assisting Executive Board members to complete tasks dealing with the daily operations of Student Government. These reports shall not exceed five (5) minutes per report.~~

## Article V

### JUDICIAL AND ASSEMBLY REPORTS

- Sec. 5.1 JUDICIAL REPORT. The Chief Justice or a Justice of the Supreme Court shall deliver the Judicial Report to discuss any pending judicial matters. They shall discuss any advisory opinions they deliver or any resolved petitions.
- Sec. 5.2 ~~STANDING ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE~~ REPORTS.
- (a) ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE REPORTS. The Chairs of ~~the Standing~~ Assembly Committees shall discuss their progress in their ~~weekly~~ committee meetings and any other legislative matters during their report ~~for up to five (5) minutes~~.
- (a) ~~Academic Affairs~~

- ~~(a) Financial Affairs~~
- ~~(a) Governmental Affairs~~
- ~~(a) Ethics and Oversight~~
- ~~(a) Rules and Regulations~~
- ~~(a) Student Affairs~~
- ~~(a) Legislative Policy Committee~~

(b) ~~Sec. 5.2~~ REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS. Representatives shall present a report to discuss their progress in drafting pieces of legislation or meeting with members of their constituency. Representatives shall be limited to speak for up to five (5) minutes during this report and their time shall include any possible questions from the Assembly.

Sec. 5.3

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY REPORT. The Speaker of the Assembly shall present a report discussing the progress of legislation or any issues related to the governance of the Assembly.

- (a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall discuss the progress of the Assembly Board during this report, and they shall detail the issues discussed during Assembly Board meetings.
- (b) The Speaker of the Assembly shall discuss any and all meetings with the Executive Board in order to ensure that the Assembly understands the progress of the Speaker of the Assembly in working and developing a relationship with the Executive Board.

## Article VI

### ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Sec. 6.1

JUDICIAL REPORT. ~~The Chief Justice or a Justice of the Supreme Court shall deliver the Judicial Report to discuss any pending judicial matters for up to five (5) minutes.~~

- ~~(a) The Chief Justice or a Justice of the Supreme Court shall discuss any advisory opinions they deliver or any resolved petitions.~~

Sec. 6.2

AD HOC REPORTS. ~~Ad hoc Appointees shall deliver reports discussing their progress and will gain feedback from the Assembly. These reports shall not exceed five (5) minutes per report.~~

Sec. 6.3

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY REPORT. ~~The Speaker of the Assembly shall present a report discussing the progress of legislation or any issues related to the governance of the Assembly.~~

- ~~(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall discuss the progress of the Assembly Board during this report, and they/he/she shall detail the issues discussed during Assembly Board meetings.~~
- ~~(b) The Speaker of the Assembly shall discuss any and all meetings with the Executive Board in order to ensure that the Assembly understands the progress of the Speaker of the Assembly in working and developing a relationship with the Executive Board.~~

## Article VII

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

- Sec. ~~67~~.1 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. During this period, individuals can make announcements for the Assembly and the general audience. Announcements shall not be required to relate to Student Government and can provide insight into different campus events and organizations.
- Sec. ~~67~~.2 SECOND ROLL CALL. The Speaker of the Assembly shall instruct the Clerk of the Assembly to call the roll of ~~sitting membership of the Assembly-standing Assembly membership~~ for the second time. The Clerk of the Assembly shall ~~provide-make~~ the records of each roll call ~~to the Communications Director publicly available within seventy-two (72) hours of the roll being taken.~~
- Sec. ~~67~~.3 ~~RECESS/~~ADJOURNMENT. Representatives will move to ~~adjourn-recess~~ the meeting, and the Speaker of the Assembly will ~~adjourn-recess~~ until the next general meeting with a simple favorable majority vote of the Assembly.

SEC 2: This bill shall be sent to the Dean of Students, the Deputy Advisory to the Dean of Students and the Vice President of Student Affairs. This bill shall take immediate effect until and unless one or more of those entities objects.

SEC 3: The Assembly Clerk shall update the Code of Rules and Procedures and provide an electronic copy to the Communications Director, who shall update the SG website accordingly.