

SGA Bill 17-11-S

A Bill to establish a Freshman Council

- Whereas:** Of the numerous freshman that come to Middle Tennessee State University only a small number become active in the Student Government Association because there are few senate seats allocated for them.
- Whereas:** Candidates for Freshman Senate are new to MTSU and therefore have not actively contributed to campus, rendering it difficult for their classmates to cast an educated vote on their behalf that is truly based on merit.
- Whereas:** The senate is composed of students from each college and the freshman elected to Freshman Senate are part of a bigger college. The makeup of the freshman senate could make certain colleges more powerful than others. Additionally, "Freshman" is not a college and it is difficult for students so new to MTSU to write legislation specifically for students in their class.
- Whereas:** More freshman should have the opportunity to become involved in SGA while maintaining their voice on senate and other universities have found a way to do this.
- Whereas:** A Freshman Council should be established with the purpose of carrying out community service while also having a voice on senate; giving a larger number of freshman the ability to become involved in SGA while helping the campus and community.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE 73rd CONGRESS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

- Section 1:** Article V Section 2 Subsection C shall be eliminated from the SGA Constitution to allow for this change.
- Section 2:** A Freshman Council shall be established at MTSU by inserting the following in Article V Section 2 Subsection C of the SGA Constitution:
- “C. Freshman will have a voice on Senate in the form of a Freshman Council. The Freshman Council shall elect their own body of officers and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall participate in meetings of the senate. The council will have the power to write and present legislation through the Chairman and Vice-Chairman that they elect. Legislation passed by the Freshman Council will be presented at the next Senate meeting for consideration. The council will also aid in the events and philanthropic activities sponsored by SGA and shall work closely with the Philanthropic Coordinator.”
- Section 3:** The student referendum shall read, “Do you support the efforts of the Student Government Association to amend the SGA Constitution to increase the number of

freshman that can become involved in SGA by establishing a Freshman Council? Yes or No.”

Section 4: When the Electoral Act is updated in the spring of 2012 Article XII entitled “Freshman Council” will be added with the following articles re-numbered accordingly.

“Section 1: Applications for Freshman Council will be put on the website and will be made available at every CUSTOMS session throughout the summer.

Section 2: Students who have completed no more than fifteen hours at any accredited university shall be eligible to serve on the council.

Section 3: After two weeks of each fall semester no more applications will be accepted and the SGA President will assemble a panel to review the applications and choose candidates for interviews.

Section 4: Based on the number of qualified applicants the SGA President and panel will choose a suitable number of students to comprise the Freshman Council.”

Sponsored by:

- Senator Poynter**
- Executive- Vice President Cobb**
- Senator Hall**
- Senator Lee**
- Senator Mosley**
- Senator Secrest**
- Senator Townsend**
- Senator Patel**
- Senator Renner**
- Senator Bogle**
- Senator Batten**
- Senator Sorg**
- Senator Lipford**
- Senator Robinson**
- Senator Manson**



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel D. Cobb", written over a horizontal line.

Speaker of the Senate

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SGA President

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VP of Student Affairs