

Resolution Authorizing the Continuation and Ratification of the Faculty Senate:

Whereas during the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 37, which was subsequently signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott on June 20, 2025.

Whereas Senate Bill 37 relates to the governance of public institutions of higher education, including review of curriculum and certain degree and certificate programs, a faculty council or senate, training for members of the governing board, and the establishment, powers, and duties of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Office of the Ombudsman.

Whereas Senate Bill 37, in Section 51.3522 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to establish a faculty council or senate and sets forth the policy by which the governing board shall select its members.

Whereas the Board of Regents of Frank Phillips College adopts the following policies in accordance with Section 51.3522, of the Texas Education Code:

1. The faculty senate must adequately represent each college and school of the institution, and
 - a. Require the members to be faculty members;
 - b. Limit the number of members to no more than 60, with at least two representatives from each college or school, including:
 - i. One member from each college or school appointed by the chief executive officer of the college; and
 - ii. The remaining members elected by a vote of the faculty of the member's respective college or school.
2. The faculty senate is advisory only and may not be delegated the final decision-making authority on any matter.
3. The faculty senate shall represent the entire faculty of Frank Phillips College and advise the administration regarding matters related to the general welfare of the institution.
4. The faculty senate may not issue any statement or publish a report using the institution's official seal, trademark, or resources funded by the institution on any matter not directly related to the faculty senate's duties to advise the institution's administration.

5. Service on the faculty senate is an additional duty of the faculty member's employment. Members of the faculty senate are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement of expenses for their role as members of the faculty senate unless the expense is on behalf of and approved by the institution of higher education.
6. A member of the faculty senate appointed by the chief executive officer of the college in accordance with Section (1)(b)(i) may serve up to six consecutive one-year terms and then may only be reappointed after the second anniversary of the last day of the member's most recent term. A member of the faculty senate elected by a vote of the faculty of the member's respective college or school serves a two-year term, staggered in a manner that allows approximately one-half of the elected members to be elected each year, and may only be reelected after the second anniversary of the last day of the member's most recent term.
7. A faculty member serving on the faculty senate may be immediately removed from the senate for failing to conduct the member's responsibilities within the senate's parameters, failing to attend senate meetings, or engaging in other similar misconduct. A member of the faculty senate may be removed on the recommendation of the institution's provost (or equivalent of the institution's chief academic officer) and approval by the chief executive officer of the institution.
8. The chief executive officer of Frank Phillips College shall appoint a faculty senate president, vice president, and secretary from the members of the faculty senate.
9. The presiding officer of the faculty senate shall preside over meetings of the faculty senate and represent the senate in official communications with the institution's administration.
10. The faculty senate shall conduct meetings at which a quorum is present in a manner that is open to the public and in accordance with procedures prescribed by the chief executive officer of the college.
11. The faculty senate shall broadcast over the Internet live video and audio, as applicable, of each open meeting of the faculty senate if more than 50 percent of the members of the senate are in attendance.
12. The faculty senate shall adopt rules for establishing a quorum.
13. The following shall be made available to the public on the Frank Phillips College Internet website not later than the seventh day before a meeting of the faculty senate:
 - a. An agenda for the meeting with sufficient detail to indicate the items that are to be discussed or that will be subject to a vote; and
 - b. Any curriculum proposals reviewed by the senate that will be discussed or voted on at the meeting.
14. The names of the members in attendance must be recorded at a meeting in which the faculty senate conducts business related to:

- a. A vote of no confidence regarding an institution administrator; or
- b. Policies related to curriculum and academic standards.

15. These policies may not be construed to limit a faculty member of Frank Phillips College from exercising the faculty member's right to freedom of association protected by the United States Constitution or the Texas Constitution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Regents of Frank Phillips College officially ratifies the continuation of the Frank Phillips College faculty senate, adopts the policies governing the faculty council or senate, and finds that the faculty Senate meets the policies adopted by the Board and the requirements of Section 51.3522, of the Texas Education Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be included in the permanent minutes of this Board.

ADOPTED THIS 18th day of August, 2025, by the Board of Regents of Frank Phillips College.

Marlene McKinney, Chair
Board of Regents

David Speed, Secretary
Board of Regents