



System Ethics & Compliance Office
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

The Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas
Office of the Governor
PO Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

November 25, 2020

RE: Combined Report of **The Texas A&M University System** Institutions – SB 18/ Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 51.9315, *Protected Expression on Campus*

Dear Governor Abbott:

Senate Bill 18, passed by the 86th Legislature (2019) and codified in Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 51.9315, requires, by December 1, 2020, all institutions of higher education to prepare, post on the institution's Internet website, and submit to the governor and the members of the legislature “a report regarding the institution’s implementation” of this new law. § 51.9315(k).

To comply with this new law, the System Ethics and Compliance Office and the Office of General Counsel provided a template rule to system members on July 31, 2019. See Exhibit “A.” Members could modify the template to fit the particular needs of their campus. Members submitted a draft rule for review by December 13, 2019. After review and approval for legal sufficiency each institution’s rule was submitted to the A&M System Board of Regents for approval. The Board of Regents approved the rules on May 14, 2020. See Exhibit “B.” The rules have been posted to each institution’s website.

Attached as Exhibits C-M are the individual reports of the A&M system institutions. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (979) 458-6008 or janetgordon@tamus.edu.

Best regards,

Janet Gordon
System Ethics and Compliance Officer

cc: Members of the Texas Legislature

Attachments: Exhibits A-M

Exhibit F

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

A. Provision of Speech Rule to Employees and Students

Texas A&M International University has made its speech rule available to employees by publishing it on the University's official rules website and announcing it to all employees on *Uconnect*, the University's communication portal.

Texas A&M International University has made its speech rule available to students by placing it in the University student handbook, distributing to students during orientation, publishing it on the University's official rules website, and announcing it to all students on *Uconnect*, the University's communication portal.

B. Materials, Programs, and Procedures

To ensure that University employees responsible for educating or disciplining students understand the requirements of the new speech rule, the University has taken the following actions:

1. The rule is published on the University's official rules website.
2. The rule is announced to all employees (and all students as well) on *Uconnect*, the University's communication portal.