

Texas FFA Association
89th Convention Delegate Business Session
Agenda and Parliamentary Briefing Sheet

Introduction: Article III, Section A of the Texas FFA Constitution states “*The Texas FFA Association...is the organization of, by, and for students...*” The convention business session is your chance to use the skills you have developed by participating in chapter business and in business sessions which are to be conducted at the district and area levels to play a part in the future of your organization. **This is to be a member-driven process.**

1. Texas FFA Association Annual Report to Members

Compiled by the Board of Student Officers, this video presentation is an informal report to the delegate body and to all members concerning the work and progress of the association.

2. Call to Order

3. Establishment of a Quorum

A *quorum* is defined as the minimum number of members which must be present to legally transact business. Normally, the governing documents of an organization define a quorum. The Texas FFA Association Constitution, Article XIII, Section B defines a quorum for the Texas FFA delegate assembly: “*A quorum shall exist when delegates representing more than 50% of the chapters registered for convention are present.*”

4. Adoption of Standing Rules (Page 4)

It is customary to adopt *convention standing rules* related to the conduct of an organization’s business. The standing rules will be read in their entirety and the chair will entertain a motion to adopt the standing rules. While the standing rules are presented and adopted as a single document, the rules constitute a group of separate motions. Therefore a delegate may discuss a rule as a separate motion. A motion to adopt the standing rules may be moved. Adoption of convention standing rules requires a two-thirds vote. In the interest of time, the presiding officer will likely seek to approve them by general consent. If there is an objection, a standing vote must be taken.

5. Minutes from the 88th Texas FFA Convention Delegate Business Session (Page 5-8)

Minutes of the previous business session are the official record of the 2016 business session and are included in the delegate packet for review. In accordance to the standing rules adopted by the 2016 delegates, the minutes were approved by a student committee appointed by the president. The committee reviewed the minutes and a video record of the 2016 business session and voted to approve the minutes as published. Therefore, no action is required by the delegates.

6. Treasurer’s Report (Page 9)

This report is not acted upon by the delegate body since it contains no recommendations and is for the information of the delegates. The Texas FFA Association’s financial records are audited by an independent auditor. The audit report and its recommendations are acted upon by the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.

7. Resolutions (Page 10-15)

A resolution serves as a formal statement or opinion rendered by the delegate body. The following resolutions are being proposed for consideration:

- (a) DR8901: Expressing appreciation to Dr. Rudy Tarpley of Tarleton State University for seven years of volunteer leadership to the Texas FFA Association as chairman of the Speaking Development Event Advisory Committee.
- (b) DR8902: Expressing gratitude to the Corpus Christi Host Committee for the work done on behalf of the association’s members to welcome the Texas FFA to Corpus Christi.
- (c) DR8903: Expressing appreciation to Horace Hodge of Prairie View for six years of servant leadership to the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.
- (d) DR8904: Expressing appreciation to Stefan Marchman of Fort Worth for six years of servant leadership to the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.
- (e) DR8905: Expressing appreciation to Jack Winterrowd of Cedar Park for five years of servant leadership to the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.
- (f) DR8906: Expressing appreciation to the 2016-2017 State FFA Officers for their year of service.

An officer will present a summary of the resolutions and a main motion to adopt all resolutions as posted may be presented by a delegate.

8. Dues (No reference document)

Article XVI, Section A of the Texas FFA Constitution states, “*Annual membership dues in the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America shall be fixed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Texas FFA Convention. Local chapters shall be notified of a proposed dues change 30 days prior to the State FFA Convention.*” Only members may set dues for the Texas FFA Association or any of its units (chapters, districts, and areas). There is no recommendation for an increase of dues and it is the recommendation of the board of directors and board of student officers that annual dues remain at \$5.00 per member. A main motion may be offered to fix annual dues at \$5.00 per member. Discussion or inquiries should be offered after the motion is stated by the presiding officer. The motion requires a majority vote.

9. Budget Proposal (Page 16)

The proposed budget was developed by the Board of Directors’ Budget and Finance Committee, approved by the Board of Directors and forwarded to the delegates for approval. The Budget and Finance Committee is composed of both adult board members and state FFA officers. A state officer who was a member of that committee will present the budget. A main motion may be offered to adopt the budget. Discussion or inquiries should be offered after the motion is stated by the presiding officer. The motion requires a majority vote.

10. Approval of Honorary Lone Star Degree Recipients

Article V, Section F of the Texas FFA Constitution states the qualifications to achieve the Honorary Lone Star Degree from the Texas FFA Association. Candidates have been submitted by ten Area Associations, as well as by the Texas FFA, and all applications were reviewed and approved at the State Degree Check in Stephenville. The constitution states that honorary degrees must be approved by the delegates at the State FFA Convention. The list of Honorary Lone Star Degree candidates is on page 52 of the convention program. A main motion may be presented to approve the Honorary Lone Star FFA Degree candidates listed in the convention program. Discussion and inquiries should be offered after the motion is stated by the presiding officer. The motion requires a majority votes.

11. Approval of State (Lone Star) Degree Recipients

Article VI, Section E of the Texas FFA Constitution outlines that the candidates nominated by the State FFA Executive Director and Board of Directors to receive the state (Lone Star) FFA Degree must be approved by the delegates at the State FFA Convention. The list of state FFA degree candidates begins on page 38 of the convention program. A main motion may be offered to approve those state FFA degree candidates listed in the convention program. Discussion or inquiries should be offered after the motion is stated by the presiding officer. The motion requires a majority vote.

12. Nominating Committee (No reference document)

Article IX, Section A(3) of the Texas FFA Constitution reads, “*To represent the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association Future Farmers of America at the National Convention, a National Officer Candidate must:...Be elected as the National Officer Candidate representing Texas by a majority vote of the delegates present at the state convention preceding the national convention at which the candidate is to run for National office.*” Texas FFA Policy, (Section 19) describes the composition and duties of a nominating committee formed to interview candidates. The committee reviews all applications, administers an exam and writing sample, and conducts multiple rounds of interviews. The committee convened in Stephenville June 9-10 and vetted all candidates. In accordance to this policy, Policy 19.4(h), “*The chairperson of the nominating committee shall report the findings of the committee to the delegate body. After the floor is opened for further nominations, a motion shall be made to accept the findings of the committee. The national officer nominee shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegate body.*” A main motion may be made to elect Brice Boyd of the Hamilton Chapter as the Texas FFA Association’s candidate for national FFA office. Following the election of the candidate, the nominee shall deliver a short acceptance speech.

13. Constitutional Amendments (Page 17-18)

Article XVII of the Texas FFA Constitution states the following concerning proposed amendments to the constitution or bylaws:

Section A: Amendments to the Texas FFA Constitution and/or Bylaws may be submitted by an Area FFA Association, the Board of Student Officers, or the State FFA Board of Directors. The proposed amendments to the State Constitution and/or Bylaws from an Area Association must be submitted in writing to the Texas FFA at least 60 days prior to the next State FFA Convention for review by the State FFA Board of Directors and the Board of Student Officers. All proposed amendments to the Texas FFA Constitution and/or Bylaws must be submitted by the State Executive Director to the local chapters at least 30 days prior to the next State FFA Convention. The State FFA Officers shall present the proposed amendments to the delegates at the State Convention. An amendment to the State FFA Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast by the official delegates at the State Convention. An amendment to the Bylaws shall require a majority vote of the official delegates at the State FFA Convention. Amendments to the Bylaws must not conflict with the State or National FFA Constitutions.

The Texas FFA Board of Directors submits three constitutional amendments to the delegate body for consideration. The details of these amendments were e-mailed to all chapters dated May 22, 2017 and have been posted online since then, thus satisfying the requirement that amendments be submitted “*to the local chapters at least 30 days prior to the next state convention.*” Since the proposed amendments are related to the constitution, a *two-thirds vote* is required for passage. These amendments are the result of the SAE Task Force commissioned by the Board of Directors in 2016-2017, and the standing board committee for the State Officer Selection Process.

- 14. Other Business:** The chair will ask if there is any other business. A delegate may present any motion or proposal that does not require prior notice.

15. Adjournment of Delegate Business Session

2017 Texas FFA Convention

Business Session Standing Rules

Rules on Credentials

1. Only registered delegates, area and state officers, and no more than two advisors per area will be allowed in the delegate section of the convention during the business session.

Rules on Delegates

2. All voting members shall register before assuming their status as delegates.

3. Delegates shall wear their delegate credentials during the business session.

4. Only registered delegates of the business session shall be entitled to make motions, debate, and vote. Area officers that are not serving as delegates, state officers, and designated advisors are to facilitate the process ONLY.

Rules on Motions

5. Main Motions and amendments shall be put in writing and presented to the presiding officer at the request of the presiding officer.

6. In order to obtain the floor to debate or present motions, with the exception of those motions that are in order when another member has the floor, each voting member shall approach the microphone holding the area sign, address the chair, give his or her name, chapter and wait for recognition prior to making a statement.

7. Debate shall be alternated, as far as possible, between those favoring and those opposing a motion, limited to three minutes for each speaker and fifteen minutes for each question (only speaking will be timed). No member shall speak more than once on the same question until all have spoken who wish to do so.

8. Motions requiring a two-thirds vote will be determined by a counted standing vote or by general consent.

Miscellaneous

9. The president shall appoint a committee of three members to approve the minutes of all convention delegate business sessions.

10. Any person who attends the business session shall conduct himself or herself in such a manner as to be a credit to the association. Any person not displaying exemplary behavior shall be subject to removal by the order of the presiding officer.

11. All electronic (or audible) devices shall be silenced (or disabled) during the business meeting.

12. If all items of business have not been transacted by 12:00 p.m., a mandatory recess will be taken at 12:00 p.m. The business session will reconvene at the point at which the recess was taken during the time allocated in the third general session.

88th Texas FFA State Convention
Business Session Minutes
July 13, 2016

11:36 a.m. – Call to order – Jason Edmonson, Texas FFA State President

Special guests and assistants were introduced to the delegate body:

- **Parliamentarian of Record** – Michael Rainey, Stephenville FFA
- **Professional Registered Parliamentarian Consultant** – Kirk Overbee

Quorum Call: Article XIII, Section B of the Texas FFA Constitution states “A quorum shall exist when delegates representing more than 50% of the chapters registered for convention are present.” The presiding officer called for the quorum.

- Delegates from 659 chapters were present. This was 83.2 % of chapters registered; therefore there was a quorum present.

The standing rules for the business session were presented to the delegates by State Vice President Kaylynn Kiker. The chair entertained a motion to adopt the standing rules.

- **John Ryan Rodriguez, Sharyland Pioneer, Area X moved to adopt the standing rules**
- **Jace Henry, Chapel Hill FFA, Area VI seconded the motion**
- **Motion passed by general consent**

State Vice President **Alec Winfrey** presented the minutes from the 87th Texas FFA State Convention Business Session. Per the 2015 convention standing rules, a committee of three individuals reviewed and approved the minutes of the 87th Texas FFA State Convention. Members of that committee were:

- Mati Abner, Howe FFA, Area V
- Colton Snedecor, Fredericksburg FFA, Area VII
- Luis Morales, El Paso Coronado, Area II

This was simply a committee report. No action was needed since the standing rules designated that this committee would approve the minutes.

State Vice President Coy Westbrook presented the Treasurer’s Report. The Texas FFA Association was in excellent financial condition with total net assets of **\$1,709,678.98**. This was for information only. Reports have been filed with the Texas FFA Secretary and Glass Company of Austin, an auditing firm for the Texas FFA Association who reports to the Board of Directors.

Article XVI, Section A of the Texas Constitution states, “*Annual Membership dues in the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America shall be fixed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Texas FFA Convention. Local chapters shall be notified of a proposed dues change 30 days prior to the State FFA Convention.*” State President Jason Edmonson presented the Board of Directors and Board of student officer’s recommendation that the annual dues remain at \$5.00,

- **Michael LaCourt, Atascocita FFA, Area III moved to fix the annual dues for 2016 to 2017 to \$5.00 per member. The motion was seconded and passed by general consent.**

State President Jason Edmonson presented the proposed budget for the 2016-2017 year.

- **Wyatt Pershall, Waller FFA, Area III moved to accept the 2016-2017 budget. Motion was seconded and passed by viva voce.**

State President Jason Edmonson presented the delegates with the six proposed resolutions drafted by the Texas FFA Association which recognize sponsors, members, and other supporters who have made an effort on behalf of the Association.

- **Avery Barthold, Valley View FFA, Area V moved to accept the resolutions. Motion was seconded and passed by general consent.**

State Vice President Kaylynn Kiker presented candidates who were nominated by the ten Area Associations and the Texas FFA Association to receive the Honorary Lone Star Degree as listed in the convention program.

- **Grayson Bush, Canyon FFA, Area I, moved to accept the Honorary Lone Star Degree Candidates as listed in the convention program.**
- **Alyssa Doucet, Hamshire-Fannett FFA, Area IX seconded the motion**
- **Taylin Antonick, Henderson FFA, Area VI moved to amend the list of candidates by inserting “Tom G. Maynard”.**
- **Riley McKinzie, Stephenville FFA, Area IV seconded the amendment. Amendment passed by general consent.**
- **Motion passed viva voce.**

State First Vice President Brice Boyd presented the candidates who were nominated by the State FFA Executive Director and Board of Directors to receive the Lone Star FFA Degree. These candidates met all degree requirements and had their documentation verified at the State Degree and Awards Check in Stephenville, TX.

- **Nina Lazaro, La Feria FFA, Area X moved to approve those Lone Star FFA candidates listed in the convention program. The motion was seconded and passed viva voce.**

Recess was called at 12:00 P.M. – The chair stated that the business session would resume following the Third General Session

3:18 P.M. – Business Session Reconvened – Jason Edmonson, Texas FFA State President

State President Jason Edmonson presented the committee report submitted by the Nominating Committee Chair, Victoria Jenks, to nominate Trey Elizondo, Yoakum FFA as the Texas FFA 2016 National Officer Candidate.

- **The Chair opened the floor for further nominations. There being none, nominations were closed.**
- **Trey Elizondo was formally accepted as the Texas National FFA Officer Candidate**
- **Trey Elizondo accepted the nomination.**

State President Jason Edmonson reviewed the policy regarding the amendment of the Texas FFA Constitution and Bylaws. It was discussed that there were three proposed amendments on the floor.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IV. AREA AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS

Section A. The ~~ten~~ Areas of the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America shall be:

- (1) Area I consisting of the following Texas counties: Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Floyd, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher and Wheeler;
- (2) Area II consisting of the following Texas counties: Andrews, Borden, Brewster, Coke, Concho, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dawson, Ector, Edwards, El Paso, Fisher, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Haskell, Howard, Hudspeth, Irion, Jeff Davis, Jones, Kent, Kimble, Loving, Lynn, Martin, Menard, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Scurry, Sterling, Stonewall, Sutton, Terrell, Terry, Tom Green, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, Winkler and Yoakum;
- (3) Area III consisting of the following Texas counties: ~~Austin, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Colorado, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, and Harris, Jackson, Lavaca, Lee, Matagorda, Milam, Montgomery, Robertson, Waller, Washington and Wharton;~~
- (4) Area IV consisting of the following Texas counties: Archer, Baylor, Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Clay, Coleman, Eastland, Erath, Foard, Hamilton, ~~Hardeman~~, Jack, Knox, Mills, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Runnels, Shackelford, Stephens, Taylor, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise and Young;

- (5) Area V consisting of the following Texas counties: Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, ~~Montague, Parker~~, Rockwall, Tarrant and ~~Wise~~;
- (6) Area VI consisting of the following Texas counties: Bowie, Camp, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Hopkins, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Rains, Red River, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood;
- (7) Area VII consisting of the following Texas counties: Bandera, ~~Bastrop~~, Bexar, Blanco, Burnet, ~~Caldwell~~, Comal, ~~Concho, Edwards~~, Gillespie, ~~Gonzales~~, Guadalupe, Hays, Kendall, Kerr, ~~Kimble~~, Kinney, Lampasas, Llano, Mason, McCulloch, Medina, ~~Menard, Mills~~, Real, San Saba, ~~Travis~~, Uvalde, ~~Val Verde, Williamson~~ and Wilson;
- (8) Area VIII consisting of the following Texas counties: Anderson, ~~Bell~~, Bosque, Coryell, Ellis, ~~Falls~~, Freestone, Henderson, Hill, Hood, Johnson, Limestone, McLennan, Navarro and Somervell;
- (9) Area IX consisting of the following Texas counties: Angelina, Chambers, Cherokee, Hardin, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler and Walker;
- (10) Area X consisting of the following Texas counties: Aransas, Atascosa, Bee, Brooks, ~~Calhoun~~, Cameron, ~~Dewitt~~, Dimmit, Duvall, Frio, Goliad, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kleburg, La Salle, Live Oak, Maverick, McMullen, Nueces, Rufugio, San Patricio, Starr, ~~Victoria~~, Webb, Willacy, Zapata and Zavala;
- (11) Area XI consisting of the following Texas counties: Austin, Caldwell, Calhoun, Colorado, Dewitt, Fayette, Gonzales, Grimes, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda, Montgomery, Victoria, Waller, Washington and Wharton;
- (12) Area XII consisting of the following Texas counties: Bastrop, Bell, Brazos, Burleson, Falls, Lee, Milam, Travis, Robertson and Williamson.

- State Vice President Micah Davidson reviewed the proposed amendment and the Chair opened the floor for discussion.
- There was much discussion in favor and also against.
- **Delegate from Area VII called Previous Question. Motion was seconded by Braiden Burny, Midlothian FFA, Area VII. The motion passed with a 2/3 vote.**
- **Motion to adopt the amendment to the Texas FFA Bylaws passed viva voce.**

BYLAWS AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IV. AREA AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS

Section A. Except as allowed pursuant to Section C of this Article, the ~~ten~~ Areas of the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America shall be:

(1) Area I consisting of the following Texas counties: Armstrong...

Section B. Area Re-Alignments: The Texas FFA Association Board of Directors shall review area alignments contained in these bylaws and consider an area realignment resolution at least every ten years.

Section C. In accordance to policies and procedures established by the board of directors, a chapter, by means of a resolution of the school district's board of trustees, may petition the board of directors to be assigned to an adjacent area association. Should the board of directors grant an area reassignment request, the reassignment shall be considered temporary and will be referred to the Area Realignment Commission in any subsequent realignment to consider whether such assignment may be recommended to made permanent.

Section D. District Associations: Each area association shall have district associations...

- State Vice President Brynn Darby reviewed the amendment to the Texas FFA Bylaws and the Chair opened the floor for discussion
- There was discussion in favor and also against.
- **Motion to adopt passed viva voce.**

BYLAWS AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IV. AREA AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS

Section B. Area Re-Alignments: The Texas FFA Association Board of Directors shall review area alignments contained in these bylaws and consider an area realignment resolution at least every ten years. Area realignments shall not divide school districts into separate area associations. For the purpose of area alignment, chapters shall be associated with the county in which the school district is headquartered.

- State Vice President Alex Garcia reviewed the amendment to the Texas FFA Bylaws and the Chair opened the floor for discussion
- **Motion to adopt the amendment passed viva voce**

3:45 P.M. – Business Session was adjourned.

Texas FFA Association
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2017

	Jun 30, 17
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Chase-FFA Oper	276,581.11
10100 · VATATCU-Share (2535-0)	2,439.92
10200 · Frost Bank - 1874	38,310.33
10300 · Frost Bank -1866	7,781.49
10400 · First Citizen Bank	533.00
10500 · VATAT CU CD-2535-55	103,834.30
10600 · City Bank Texas - 420010439	143,392.90
10700 · City Bank Texas - 300017370	150,000.00
10800 · LK-JP Morgan - M53146003	979,683.63
10900 · Chase Savings 301-15125	3,180.07
Total Checking/Savings	1,705,736.75
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivables	2,924.50
Total Accounts Receivable	2,924.50
Total Current Assets	1,708,661.25
Fixed Assets	
14000 · Office Equipment	26,897.08
14100 · Automobile	40,689.38
14200 · Furniture	2,780.05
14300 · Acc. Depreciation-Auto	-11,529.00
14400 · Acc. Depreciation-Equipment	-10,181.43
14500 · Acc. Depreciation (Furniture)	-2,032.86
Total Fixed Assets	46,623.22
TOTAL ASSETS	1,755,284.47
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
15000 · -AP*	1,000.00
Total Accounts Payable	1,000.00
Other Current Liabilities	
15100 · A/P Scholarship	120,000.00
16000 · Prepaid Expenses	-7,037.72
16100 · Federal Payroll Tax	3,444.44
16200 · Unemployment Liabilities	328.09
16300 · SEP - Edward Jones	1,855.86
16400 · Health Insurance Liability	35.72
17000 · Deferred Swine Income	35,651.00
18300 · Vacation & Sick Accrual	18,165.00
18400 · Petty Cash	-500.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	171,942.39
Total Current Liabilities	172,942.39
Total Liabilities	172,942.39
Equity	
Retained Earnings	1,373,308.07
Net Income	209,034.01
Total Equity	1,582,342.08
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,755,284.47

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8901**

WHEREAS Speaking Development Events date back to the earliest years in FFA’s history, with the first National Public Speaking Event being held in 1930; and

WHEREAS FFA Speaking Development Events reflect instructional philosophies of the agriculture, food and natural resources program, as well as stimulate instruction and student achievement in leadership, communication and personal skill development; and

WHEREAS the Texas FFA Association has a robust Speaking Development Event program including Senior Prepared Public Speaking (with speakers competing in six divisions), Junior Prepared Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Public Speaking and Soil Stewardship Prepared Public Speaking; and

WHEREAS Texas students who compete and advance to the national level are prepared to contend for national championships by virtue of the high degree of preparation required to advance in the state’s speaking event continuum and the expectations of excellence consistently fostered by the Texas FFA Speaking Development Event system; and

WHEREAS Speaking Development Events provide an authentic third-party assessment for agriculture, food and natural resources knowledge, critical thinking, professionalism and self-discipline; and

WHEREAS the execution of Texas FFA Speaking Development Events requires an effective working relationship between the association’s board of directors, elected advisory committee, FFA staff members and volunteers; and

WHEREAS the state’s elected Speaking Development Event Advisory Committee is a vitally important deliberative body for stakeholder input, policy and rule review and development, rule enforcement and scoring verification; and

WHEREAS leadership of the elected Speaking Development Event Advisory Committee is vested in a chairperson who volunteers time and talent to lead this programmatic committee & who has earned the respect and confidence of the board of directors as expressed in the election to this position; and

WHEREAS Dr. Rudy Tarpley of Tarleton State University has served as the chairman of the Texas FFA Association’s Speaking Development Events committee from 2010-2016; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do extend their deepest gratitude to Dr. Tarpley for his exemplary leadership of the Speaking Development Event Advisory Committee, for serving as an example of “living to serve” and of “exerting an influence...which will stand solid” for his part in the inspiring task of raising up a new generation of young Texans to assume the mantle of leadership for Texas and the United States of America; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceedings of this convention, and that a copy be provided to Dr. Rudy Tarpley as a token of our sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8902**

WHEREAS since 1929, the Texas FFA Association has held an annual state convention to elect officers, conduct the association's business and serve as the primary vehicle for recognizing the accomplishments of members and chapters and the contributions of supporters in the preceding year; and

WHEREAS the convention serves as a vitally important source of inspiration for students to pursue dreams and to develop knowledge and skills which become the foundation for a life of achievement, leadership and service; and

WHEREAS the convention also serves as an opportunity for members to make significant contributions through volunteer service and leadership and for many is a capstone experience; and

WHEREAS since the first host committee was assembled in Houston in 1951 at the 23rd Convention, local host committees have served a vital role in creating a memorable experience for FFA members and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS the Texas FFA Convention is the largest youth-led convention in the state of Texas, hosting more than 12,000 members and guests, requiring detailed planning years and months in advance relying in large part on the cooperation and efforts of a committed host committee to lay much of the foundation for a successful launch and execution; and

WHEREAS the 2017 Convention to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas is a representation of the more than 119,000 Texas FFA members from ten area subdivisions, 57 districts, and more than 1,000 local chapters; and

WHEREAS the city of Corpus Christi, Texas was selected to serve as the host city for the 89th annual Texas FFA Convention to be held on July 10-14, 2017; and

WHEREAS the Corpus Christi Host Committee is comprised of eight representatives of the Corpus Christi-area agricultural and business community: Bonnie Berry, Dennis Berry, Mike Carrell, Joe Gazin, Steve Mosley, John Steelhammer, Julie Walker, Travis Walker, Dr. Randall Williams, and Host Committee Chair Jerome Tymrak; and

WHEREAS the Corpus Christi Host Committee served in their roles with vigor, earnest effort, and selfless service to the Texas FFA Association, which reflected great credit upon themselves and allowed for successful completion of the 89th Texas FFA Convention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do extend their deepest gratitude to the Corpus Christi Host Committee for their loyal dedication and efforts on behalf of the Texas FFA Association; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceedings of this convention, and that a copy be provided to each Host Committee member as a token of our sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8903**

WHEREAS since the first trustees, J.J. Brown, C.L. Davis, S.N. Marrs and J.B. Rutland of Austin; C.H. Winkler and E.R. Alexander of College Station; and S.C. Wilson of Huntsville, were elected in 1929, Texas FFA has sought the wisdom and guidance of recognized adult leaders; and

WHEREAS Texas FFA Association Board of Directors, the constitutional governing body of the association, work alongside the Board of Student Officers and provides leadership, governance, fiduciary stewardship and strategic vision to the organization; and

WHEREAS each of the members of the board serves without compensation, committing time and talent to convene with the board and serve on its various committees and task forces to chart the future of the Texas FFA Association; and

WHEREAS since September 2011, Horace Hodge of Prairie View has faithfully discharged his duties as a member of the Texas FFA Board of Directors, working alongside 60 different state officers during his tenure; and

WHEREAS during his tenure as a member of the Board of Directors, 65 local chapters have been chartered, re-chartered or reinstated and membership has grown by 38,158 members; and

WHEREAS Mr. Hodge served as a member of the following board standing committees: Budget & Finance, Human Resources and Benefits, and Performance Review of the Executive Director; and

WHEREAS Mr. Hodge served as a member of the following board ad hoc committees or task forces: Diversity and Inclusion (Chairman), Long-term Strategic Planning (Chairman), and Area Realignment; and

WHEREAS Mr. Hodge has been an active part of numerous vitally important board initiatives including: development of a strategic plan; complete restructuring of the state officer selection process; creation of support mechanisms for student officers; development, adoption and implementation of the association's first area realignment policy and procedure; development and adoption of the association's leadership development continuum; execution of the 2015-16 competitive event review and revision (the most comprehensive process in the association's history); review and revision of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Agricultural Consortium revisions of Texas; two separate student delegate task forces; constitutional amendments regarding degree requirements and revisions to the scholarship policies which allowed for students with dual memberships in FFA and 4-H to compete for scholarships in both organizations; and

WHEREAS pursuant to constitutional mandate, Mr. Hodge, having served two three-year terms, is ineligible for re-election to the Board of Directors, is retiring from his board service to the Texas FFA Association; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do extend their deepest gratitude to Mr. Hodge, for the years of loyal, faithful service to Texas Agricultural Education and the Texas FFA Association, for the leadership exhibited as an example to be emulated by young Texans and for the tireless commitment to the future of agriculture; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceeding of this convention and that a copy be provided to Mr. Hodge as a token of our sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8904**

WHEREAS since the first trustees, J.J. Brown, C.L. Davis, S.N. Marrs and J.B. Rutland of Austin; C.H. Winkler and E.R. Alexander of College Station; and S.C. Wilson of Huntsville, were elected in 1929, Texas FFA has sought the wisdom and guidance of recognized adult leaders; and

WHEREAS Texas FFA Association Board of Directors, the constitutional governing body of the association, work alongside the Board of Student Officers and provides leadership, governance, fiduciary stewardship and strategic vision to the organization; and

WHEREAS each of the members of the board serves without compensation, committing time and talent to convene with the board and serve on its various committees and task forces to chart the future of the Texas FFA Association; and

WHEREAS since September 2011, Stefan Marchman of Fort Worth has faithfully discharged his duties as a member of the Texas FFA Board of Directors, working alongside 60 different state officers during his tenure; and

WHEREAS during his tenure as a member of the Board of Directors, 65 local chapters have been chartered, re-chartered or reinstated and membership has grown by 38,158 members; and

WHEREAS Mr. Marchman served as a member of the following board standing committees: Performance Review of the Executive Director, Convention Speakers & Entertainment, and Human Resources & Benefits; and

WHEREAS Mr. Marchman served as a member of the following board ad hoc committees or task forces: Convention Housing and Registration (Chairman) and Stock Show Ethics Task Force (Chairman); and

WHEREAS Mr. Marchman has been an active part of numerous vitally important board initiatives including: development of a strategic plan; complete restructuring of the state officer selection process; creation of support mechanisms for student officers; development, adoption and implementation of the association's first area realignment policy and procedure; development and adoption of the association's leadership development continuum; execution of the 2015-16 competitive event review and revision (the most comprehensive process in the association's history); review and revision of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Agricultural Consortium revisions of Texas; two separate student delegate task forces; constitutional amendments regarding degree requirements and revisions to the scholarship policies which allowed for students with dual memberships in FFA and 4-H to compete for scholarships in both organizations; and

WHEREAS pursuant to constitutional mandate, Mr. Marchman, having served two three-year terms, is ineligible for re-election to the Board of Directors, is retiring from his board service to the Texas FFA Association; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do extend their deepest gratitude to Mr. Marchman, for the years of loyal, faithful service to Texas Agricultural Education and the Texas FFA Association, for the leadership exhibited as an example to be emulated by young Texans and for the tireless commitment to the future of agriculture; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceeding of this convention and that a copy be provided to Mr. Marchman as a token of our sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8905**

WHEREAS since the first trustees, J.J. Brown, C.L. Davis, S.N. Marrs and J.B. Rutland of Austin; C.H. Winkler and E.R. Alexander of College Station; and S.C. Wilson of Huntsville, were elected in 1929, Texas FFA has sought the wisdom and guidance of recognized adult leaders; and

WHEREAS Texas FFA Association Board of Directors, the constitutional governing body of the association, work alongside the Board of Student Officers and provides leadership, governance, fiduciary stewardship and strategic vision to the organization; and

WHEREAS each of the members of the board serves without compensation, committing time and talent to convene with the board and serve on its various committees and task forces to chart the future of the Texas FFA Association; and

WHEREAS since September 2012, Jack Winterrowd of Cedar Park has faithfully discharged his duties as a member of the Texas FFA Board of Directors, working alongside 50 different state officers during his tenure; and

WHEREAS during his tenure as a member of the Board of Directors, 56 local chapters have been chartered, re-chartered or reinstated and membership has grown by 33,036 members; and

WHEREAS Mr. Winterrowd served as a member of the following board standing committees: Convention Speakers & Entertainment (Chairman), Budget & Finance (Chairman), and Performance Review of the Executive Director; and

WHEREAS Mr. Winterrowd served as a member of the following board ad hoc committees or task forces: State Officer Selection (Chairman); State Officer Assistance, Scholarship Review and Posting (Chairman); Delegate Business Session Task Force (Chairman); Regional District Camp (Chairman); and Area Realignment (Chairman); and

WHEREAS Mr. Winterrowd has been an active part of numerous vitally important board initiatives including: development of a strategic plan; complete restructuring of the state officer selection process; creation of support mechanisms for student officers; development, adoption and implementation of the association's first area realignment policy and procedure; development and adoption of the association's leadership development continuum; execution of the 2015-16 competitive event review and revision (the most comprehensive process in the association's history); review and revision of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Agricultural Consortium revisions of Texas; two separate student delegate task forces; constitutional amendments regarding degree requirements and revisions to the scholarship policies which allowed for students with dual memberships in FFA and 4-H to compete for scholarships in both organizations; and

WHEREAS Mr. Winterrowd, having completed the five-year teacher tenure track described in the bylaws and policies of the association, is ineligible for re-election to the Board of Directors and is therefore retiring from his board service to the Texas FFA Association; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do extend their deepest gratitude to Mr. Winterrowd, for the years of loyal, faithful service to Texas Agricultural Education and the Texas FFA Association, for the leadership exhibited as an example to be emulated by young Texans and for the tireless commitment to the future of agriculture; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceeding of this convention and that a copy be provided to Mr. Winterrowd as a token of our sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
Delegate Resolution No. 8906**

WHEREAS since the Texas Future Farmer movement was initiated in 1928 and the first officers: Arthur Ellis of New Waverley, E.J. Hughes of Dublin, Herbert Davis of Silverton, Louis Sorenson of Taylor, and C.C. Robinson of Crystal City were elected on April 22, 1929 in College Station, 89 officer teams and 865 members have been elected to serve the Texas Association; and

WHEREAS the association's student officers serve as volunteers representing both the history, present and future of the association; and

WHEREAS the Board of Student Officers work alongside the Texas FFA Board of Directors to develop policy, exercise oversight and provide direction to the association; and

WHEREAS the 2016-2017 State Officers, hereafter referred to as "the officers," participated in significant organization initiatives; and

WHEREAS during the tenure of the officers, Texas FFA membership has grown by 4,071, accounting for nearly 19% of the national membership and the largest membership growth for the National FFA Organization in 2016-2017; and

WHEREAS the officers provided exemplary leadership for the largest official delegation to represent the state at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis and effectively advocated the state association's position in national affairs; and

WHEREAS the officers were instrumental in launching the first "Officership Series" conferences; and

WHEREAS the officers provided visionary leadership for the State Leadership Conference held in San Antonio, Texas; and

WHEREAS the officers were a critically important component in the successful chartering of nine local chapters by providing effective service in the execution of JumpSTART Academies; and

WHEREAS the 2016-2017 travel team traveled more than 40,000 miles and visited nearly 300 local chapters; and

WHEREAS the officers worked diligently with the Texas FFA Foundation in fostering strategic relationships in its development efforts; and

WHEREAS the officers worked as ambassadors to the association's livestock show partners by serving in volunteer roles at the State Fair of Texas, Fort Worth Livestock Show, San Antonio Livestock Exposition and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; and

WHEREAS the officers represented the members of the association at statewide competitive events hosted by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sam Houston State University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, and Wildlife Alliance for Youth; and

WHEREAS the officers provided vital leadership in the execution of the state officer nominating committee; and

WHEREAS the officers have worked with the Corpus Christi Independent School District Homeless Education Services to allow members to truly "live to serve" and leave a legacy in the City of Corpus Christi by collecting backpacks filled with school supplies to aid needy children; and

WHEREAS the officers have worked diligently to create an exciting, inspiring convention that underscores relentless pursuit of excellence, service, influence and achievement in Corpus Christi, July 10-14; and

WHEREAS the officers have faithfully discharged the duties of their offices and have worked tirelessly to advance the legacy of the Texas FFA Association; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the official delegates assembled at the 89th Texas FFA Convention do offer congratulations for a successful year and extend deepest gratitude to Jake Traylor of Gilmer, State President; Conner McKinzie of Stephenville, State First Vice President; and State Vice Presidents: John Smithwick of Idalou, Carlie Hollingsworth of Glasscock County, Kayla Hanson of A&M Consolidated, Macie Clugston of Callisburg, Charlie Hoppe of Cedar Park, Evagail Calvert of Grandview, Creager Davis of Alto, and Christian Cavazos of San Benito for a job well done; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be filed as a permanent record of the proceedings of this convention and that a copy be provided to each retiring officer as a token of the delegates' sincere thanks and appreciation.

WITNESS our signatures this 12th day of July, two thousand and seventeen, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jake Traylor, State President

Austin Large, Executive Director

**Texas FFA Association
2017-18 Proposed Budget**

REVENUE	2016-17 Budget	Proposed 2017-18 Budget	Budget Change	PCT of Budget
Membership Dues/Affiliation Fees	1,235,000.00	1,246,000.00	11,000.00	42.36
Convention Revenue	757,000.00	921,520.00	164,520.00	31.33
Registration	357,500.00	501,020.00	143,520.00	17.03
Partnerships	26,500.00	26,500.00	0.00	0.90
Exhibits	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	3.40
Merchandising	32,000.00	32,000.00	0.00	1.09
Rodeo	36,000.00	45,000.00	9,000.00	1.53
Food Court	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.00	4.08
Parking	23,000.00	35,000.00	12,000.00	1.19
Reimbursements	62,000.00	62,000.00	0.00	2.11
State Leadership Programs	108,028.00	87,000.00	(21,028.00)	2.96
National Convention Reimbursement	31,000.00	31,000.00	0.00	1.05
Swine Validation	350,208.48	495,000.00	144,791.52	16.83
Interest/Dividends, Miscellaneous	20,000.00	33,500.00	13,500.00	1.14
Designated Gifts/Grants	13,000.00	11,500.00	(1,500.00)	0.39
Student Officer Programs	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	0.68
Carl Perkins-Federal Grant	63,166.00	64,785.00	1,619.00	2.20
Salary Reimbursement	15,000.00	11,000.00	(4,000.00)	0.37
Entry Fees (Agriscience Fair/Speaking Events)	22,500.00	20,000.00	(2,500.00)	0.68
TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE	2,634,902.48	2,941,305.00	306,402.52	100.00
EXPENSES				
State Officers	137,200.00	147,400.00	10,200.00	5.01
Travel Team Vehicle	14,500.00	14,500.00	0.00	0.49
State Convention	674,500.00	788,350.00	113,850.00	26.80
Facility/Decorator	105,000.00	109,350.00	4,350.00	13.87
Production/Audio Visual	145,000.00	155,000.00	10,000.00	19.66
Headquarter Hotel/Meals/Food Court	185,000.00	190,000.00	5,000.00	24.10
Awards, Supplies, Printing	41,000.00	49,000.00	8,000.00	6.22
Security/EMS	5,000.00	18,000.00	13,000.00	2.28
Speakers	22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00	2.79
Merchandising	22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00	2.79
Chorus	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	1.90
Student Media	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.63
Rodeo	45,000.00	45,000.00	0.00	5.71
Technical Support/Transportation/Planning/Housing Service	9,000.00	70,000.00	61,000.00	8.88
Event Insurance	7,500.00	5,000.00	(2,500.00)	0.63
Entertainment/Events	43,000.00	43,000.00	0.00	5.45
Parking	25,000.00	40,000.00	15,000.00	5.07
National FFA Convention	65,000.00	72,000.00	7,000.00	2.45
Leadership Programs	184,000.00	174,500.00	(9,500.00)	5.93
Communications (magazine, newsletter, online)	21,500.00	28,000.00	6,500.00	0.95
Degree, Award, Scholarship Selection	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	0.41
Tx FFA Funded Scholarships	47,500.00	47,500.00	0.00	1.61
National Dues	700,000.00	745,000.00	45,000.00	25.33
Office Operations	88,300.00	131,850.00	43,550.00	4.48
Rent, Maintenance, Storage	53,100.00	53,100.00	0.00	40.27
Supplies	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	4.17
Postage	2,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	2.28
Printing	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	3.79
Office Equipment	2,500.00	3,000.00	500.00	2.28
Equipment Depreciation	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00	1.29
Telephone	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	6.07
Bank Charges	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.76
Internet Services	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	2.28
Furniture	350.00	400.00	50.00	0.30
Publications	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.11
Website Hosting/Membership Mgmt	6,000.00	48,000.00	42,000.00	36.41
Insurance	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.10
Professional Services (Legal, Audit)	20,500.00	20,600.00	100.00	0.70
Swine Validation/Animal Industries	194,000.00	221,500.00	27,500.00	7.53
Human Resources: Personnel	404,805.00	463,229.23	58,424.23	15.75
Travel: Staff, Executive Director	26,500.00	27,500.00	1,000.00	0.93
Miscellaneous, Special Projects	36,250.00	36,375.00	125.00	1.24
Board of Directors	7,500.00	8,000.00	500.00	0.27
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	2,637,055.00	2,941,304.23	304,249.23	100.00

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 1

To the Texas FFA Association Constitution

Related to **Article V: Membership**

Amending **Section C** by **striking** “to gain experience in agriculture related careers” and **adding in its place** “preparation for an agricultural career”.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section C: Active Membership - To be eligible for active membership in a chartered FFA chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources program. The Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America considers “secondary Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs” to be grades 7-12.

To retain membership, a student must:

1. Be enrolled in at least one Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is ~~to gain experience in agriculture related careers~~ **preparation for an agricultural career.**

Rationale: In the majority of Texas communities, there are limited traditional agricultural placement opportunities in which FFA members may seek employment. These limitations are due to factors such as: lack of placement sites, employee age restrictions, company policies, chapter location, etc. As a result of these limitations, it has become necessary to expand what would be traditionally viewed as an “agriculturally related” placement supervised agricultural experience program (SAE). As a result of the more than 300 unique agriculture related careers available today and the diversification of the agricultural industry, the AFNR standards on a national and state level have broadened, giving more flexibility for student SAEs. In addition, agricultural science teachers teach “successful employability skills” as required by the current TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) in each course. The skills taught are not just for agriculture related jobs, they are skills that make a student successful for any and all careers.

After much discussion, the SAE Task Force, formed by the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors, believes that if an FFA member can tie their SAE to specific AFNR content standards and/or the TEKS (which is illustrated in the students record book journals), then the placement enterprise shall be considered a valid SAE and can be utilized to satisfy the constitutional requirements for all FFA degrees.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 2

To the Texas FFA Association Constitution

Related to **Article X: Election, Succession, Replacement and Discharge of State Officers**

Amending **Section A** and **Section E** by **striking** “exam score, 20 percent, interview score, 30 percent and a score derived from the vote of the delegates present, 50 percent” and **adding in its place** “interview score, 60 percent and a score derived from the vote of delegates present, 40 percent.”

ARTICLE X. ELECTION, SUCCESSION, REPLACEMENT AND DISCHARGE OF STATE OFFICERS

Section A: The elected officers of the Texas FFA Association/Texas Association of Future Farmers of America shall be selected and nominated by each of the Area Associations. Each of these officers has an opportunity to demonstrate FFA, agriculture education, parliamentary procedure and agricultural industry knowledge via a written exam, present their qualifications to an evaluation committee, and appear before the state convention body delegates and deliver a campaign speech.

A president shall be elected from the state officers by a combination of ~~exam score, 20 percent, interview score, 30 percent and a score derived from the vote of the delegates present, 50 percent~~ **interview score, 60 percent,**

and a score derived from the vote of the delegates present, 40 percent. The state elections committee shall...

Section E: Each Area Association may elect one state officer each year. The state officer shall be elected by a combination of ~~exam score, 20 percent, interview score, 30 percent and a score derived from the vote of the delegates present, 50 percent~~ **interview score, 60 percent, and a score derived from the vote of the delegates present, 40 percent** and in accordance to policies adopted by the State FFA Board of Directors.

Rationale: Currently, each state officer is elected based by a combination of exam score, 20 percent, interview score, 30 percent, and a popular vote of the convention delegates, 50 percent. This amendment would make the exam score a portion of the “Areas of Knowledge” competency evaluated during the state officer selection process. Adding the exam as factor in the overall scoring of the “Areas of Knowledge” competency allows the nominating committee to fully evaluate each candidate in this competency, rather than having the exam score be a separate factor in the selection process. Since this amendment proposes having the test as a portion of the interview score, it is recommended to increase the percentage by which the interview score factors into the overall election of state officers.

The state officer selection process requires a significant time and preparation on behalf of the state officer candidates and nominating committee members. This increase in the weight added to the interview score in the selection process aims to acknowledge the increased level of preparation required to demonstrate mastery in the eight selection competencies. The reduction in the weight for the popular vote in the process does not seek to take away the voice from students; it adds additional weight to the voice to the group of highly qualified students who have spent several days evaluating the performance of candidates in a variety of settings. All of the scores derived through this process (either through the interview or popular vote) are provided by students, representing all of the area associations.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 3

To the Texas FFA Association Constitution

Related to **Article X: Election, Succession, Replacement and Discharge of State Officers**

Amending **Section F** by **striking** “must be active members for the duration of their term in office and must not be more than one year removed from high school graduation at the time of their nomination by their respective area association” and **adding in its place** “and must be active members for the duration of their term in office. A candidate may be eligible to run for state office through the second convention after their graduation from high school.”

ARTICLE X. ELECTION, SUCCESSION, REPLACEMENT AND DISCHARGE OF STATE OFFICERS

Section F: The state officers shall hold the State FFA Degree at the time of their election at the state convention ~~must be active members for the duration of their term in office and must not be more than one year removed from high school graduation at the time of their nomination by their respective area association~~ **and must be active members for the duration of their term in office. A candidate may be eligible to run for state office through the second convention after their graduation from high school.**

Rationale: This amendment does not change the intent of this section of the constitution; it merely provides greater clarity to the eligibility for a student to run for state office. The previous wording could be interpreted in such a way that would make a graduate think they were ineligible to run for state office due to the placement of the annual state FFA convention. Since the convention happens in mid-July, and most schools end in late May and early June, technically a student would be more than one year removed from high school at the time of their nomination by their respective area association. The intent of this section is to allow a student who graduated the previous school year maintain eligibility to run for state office as long as they hold the State FFA Degree and maintain their FFA membership.