



**The University of Alabama
26th Student Senate
2021-2022**

Jillian Fields
President

**Agenda for November 4, 2021
Regular Session**

Sam Rickert
Executive Vice President

Amanda Allen
Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Lauren Gilonske
Vice President for Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion

Madeline Martin
Vice President for
External Affairs

Sullivan Irvine
Vice President for
Financial Affairs

Jack Steinmetz
Vice President for
Student Affairs

Colin Marcum
Executive Secretary

Nathan Yamaguchi
Chief of Staff

Matthew Curl
Chief Justice

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Announcements
 - a. Capstone Creed and SGA Mission Statement- Cameron Doyle and Katie Morris
- III. Old Business
- IV. New Business
 - a. Resolution R-25-21 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ADOPTION OF “DRESS DOWN DAY”
 - b. Bill B-07-21 A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS TO ADD TITLE XIV TO INCLUDE THE SAFE CENTER COMMITTEE
 - c. Resolution R-26-21 A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS ADVISORY BOARD TO CONSIDER THE ADDITION OF MONUMENT SIGNS IN THE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING QUAD
 - d. Act A-06-21 AN ACT TO APPROVE THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION FUNDING REQUESTS SUGGESTED BY THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2021
 - e. Constitutional Amendment C-01-21 A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ADOPT RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN ALL EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS
 - f. Act A-07-21 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A REFERENDUM ON THE 2022 SPRING ELECTION BALLOT
- V. Adjourn



Resolution R-25-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authored by: Senator CJ Pearson

Sponsored by: Senator Lauryn Parker, Senator Katie Morris, Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator Collier Dobbs, Senator Rachel Cordry, Senator Jacob Gifford, Senator Alison Gaston, Senator Sarah Mason Avery, Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Sarah Beth Corona, Senator Ruthanne Carter, Senator John McClendon, Senator Izzy Talbert, Senator Hallie Foster, Senator Henry Boyle, Secretary of the Senate Grace Federico, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator Grayson Shook, Senator Luke Dille, Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Porter O’Doherty, Senator Andrew Bregman, Senator Hope Rider, Senator Grant Haidu, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Lauren Rouse

Endorsed by: Madeline Martin, Vice President of External Affairs; Lauren Gilonske, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Jillian Fields, SGA President; Maggie Lucas, Co-Director, Disability Affairs; Joey Strzalka, Co-Director, Disability Affairs

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ADOPTION OF “DRESS DOWN DAY”

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled

WHEREAS, Down Syndrome is the most common chromosomal disorder diagnosed in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 6,000 babies each year are born with Down Syndrome in America, with approximately 85 of those births occurring in the state of Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, more than 400,000 people are living with Down syndrome in the United States; now,

THEREFORE, be it *RESOLVED* that The University of Alabama Student Government Association encourage the adoption of “Dress Down” Day, on which University of Alabama students will be encouraged to wear a specially designed t-shirt during an Alabama basketball game to bring awareness to those with Down Syndrome

Be it further resolved, that the proceeds of the aforementioned t-shirt sales will be donated to a 501c(3) organization that provides support to those in the special needs community.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. James Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Angel Narvarez Lugo; Greg Byrne, Athletic Director; Brad Ledford, Associate Athletics Director for Strategic Marketing; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-07-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Luke Dille

Sponsors: Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator John Dodd, Senator Porter O’Doherty, Senator Sims Johnson, Senator Andrew Bregman, Senator Rachel Cordry, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Hope Rider, Senator Katie Morris, Senator Mary Kate Grossmann, Senator Grayson Shook, Senator Izzy Talbert, Senator John McLendon, Senator Luke Shroeder, Senator Ruthanne Carter, Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Collier Dobbs, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator Ella Kutner, Senator Sarah Mason Avery, Senator CJ Pearson, Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Lauren Rouse

Endorsements: Director of SAFE Center Committee Kennedy Carter, Vice President for External Affairs Madeline Martin, Executive Vice President Sam Rickert, Vice President for Academic Affairs Amanda Allen, Executive Secretary Colin Marcum, Secretary of the Senate Grace Federico, Director of First Year Council William Bradley, Jillian Fields, SGA President,

**A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS TO ADD TITLE XIV
TO INCLUDE THE SAFE CENTER COMMITTEE**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The SGA SAFE Center Committee is a group of students who act as a liaison between the Student Government and the Tuscaloosa SAFE Center.
- B. The SAFE Center committee members are not included in the SGA Code of Laws. Therefore, committee member’s roles and responsibilities are not outlined.

Section 2. Legislation:

The SGA Code of Laws shall be updated as reflected in the master Code of Laws Word document distributed to the SGA Senate. **Additions, deletions, and revisions are reflected in red.**

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Jillian Fields, SGA President; Katie Beth Crowe, SGA Attorney General; Matthew Curl, SGA Chief Justice; Darius Thomas, Speaker of the Senate; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; *The Crimson White* and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Resolution R-26-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator Luke Dille, Vice President for Academic Affairs Amanda Allen

Sponsors: Senator Sarah Mason Avery, Senator Wyatt Brunette, Senator Ella Canalizo-Kutner, Senator Charlie Crouse, Senator Jacob Gifford, Senator Grant Haidu, Senator Chuck Parse, Senator John Richardson, Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Lauren Rouse, Senator Andrew Bregman, Secretary Grace Federico

Endorsements: Jillian Fields, SGA President; Colin Marcum, Executive Secretary; Madeline Martin, Vice President for External Affairs;

**A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS
ADVISORY BOARD TO CONSIDER THE ADDITION OF MONUMENT SIGNS
IN THE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING QUAD**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

WHEREAS, The goal of the The University of Alabama Student Government Association is to enhance the experience of the students it represents; and

WHEREAS, There are 5,389 students in the College of Engineering and thousands of other students that utilize the Science and Engineering Quad; and

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama promotes an inclusive and accessible environment for all students; and

WHEREAS, The Science and Engineering Complex, North Engineering Research Center, and South Engineering Center buildings are easily confused despite current identifying signage within the quad; and

WHEREAS, The confusion between buildings in the Science and Engineering Quad has been identified as an issue among students as reported to The University of Alabama Student Government Association and confirmed by the College of Engineering Senators;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association encourages the Landscape and Grounds Advisory Board to consider the addition of monument signs in the Science and Engineering Quad.

Be it further resolved, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association specifically recommends adding one monument sign each to the Science Engineering Complex, North Engineering Research Center, and South Engineering Research Center, in front of each building's entrance within the quad.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to:

Angel Narvaez-Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Dr. Stuart R. Bell, The University of Alabama President; Dr. Myron Pope, The University of Alabama Vice President for Student Life; Keely Brewer, Editor-in-Chief of The Crimson White; Paul Wuebold, Senior Executive Director of UA Facilities and Grounds; Darius Thomas, Speaker of the Senate; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff; Jillian Fields, SGA President; Colin Marcum, Executive Secretary; Amanda Allen, Vice President for Academic Affairs; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Act A-06-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Sullivan Irvine, Vice-President of Financial Affairs; Senator Benner Page

Sponsors: Senator Luke Schroeder, Senator Grant Haidu, Senator Will Goodloe, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator Grayson Shook, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Andrew Bregman

Endorsements: Jill Fields, President; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice-President; Amanda Allen, Vice-President of Academic Affairs; Jack Steinmetz, Vice-President of Student Affairs; Madeline Martin, Vice-President of External Affairs; Colin Marcum, Executive Secretary; Lauren Gilonske, Vice-President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff

**AN ACT TO APPROVE THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION FUNDING
REQUESTS SUGGESTED BY THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR
THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2021**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

1. The Financial Affairs Committee met on October 25, 2021.
2. The committee heard 8 requests from 8 organizations before making its decisions.
3. \$1,254.00 was deducted from an organization's requested amount due to the traveling expense being over the budget of \$500 per individual, in addition, 3 students involved with the organization already received \$750 respectively from other UA departments for travel expenses so that was deducted from their allotted funding.
4. 94.4% of the total requested amount was awarded.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. ***Therefore, be it resolved***, the Senate approves the following FAC funding requests by SOURCE student organizations for a total award of \$21,807.38 with details listed in the Excel sheet attached.
2. ***Be it further resolved***, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; Dr. Ruperto Perez; Sherry Phillips, FAC Advisor; Rebecca Griesbach, *The Crimson White* Editor-in-Chief; Angel Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor



Constitutional Amendment C-01-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Drew St. Charles

Sponsors: Senator John Dodd, Senator Rachel Cordry

Endorsements: Vote Everywhere UA

**A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ADOPT RANKED CHOICE VOTING
IN ALL EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS**

Be in enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1: Findings

A. There are apparent inconsistencies between what is written in the SGA Constitution and the Elections Board Manual regarding the electoral process

B. The Spring 2021 election saw low candidate turnout, furthermore previous elections have also shown low turnout rates both among candidates and among voters

C. Ranked choice voting has shown to be a viable solution to both issues after being implemented at both the state and municipal levels and has been shown to empower voters, increase voter turnout, and encourage more candidates to run, among many other benefits

Section 2: Amendment to the Constitution

Section 2: Voting.

A. Any Student currently enrolled at The University of Alabama may vote in SGA elections.

B. Students may cast one vote for the Senate in their primary college of enrollment.
~~Students may vote once for each elected executive official.~~

- 1.** Upon the tallying of votes, candidates for Senate in each school or college shall be ranked in order of votes received from highest to lowest.
 - a.** Based upon this ranking, candidates for Senate receiving the most votes shall be elected to represent their school or college.
 - b.** The number chose shall be equal to the apportioned senate seats for each school or college as defined in Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution.
- 2.** If a student chooses to write-in their vote, that will count as their singular vote.
- 3.** In the event of a tie in the number of votes received by candidates for Senate seats that results in a school or college surpassing the apportioned seats for that school or college, a tie will be broken by a run-off election that shall be on a date determined by the Student Elections Board.

~~C. All SGA elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, via the voting portal on myBama.~~

C. Students may cast their vote for SGA homecoming and executive candidates via a ranked preferential choice ballot. “Verified candidates” shall be defined as candidates that submitted a statement of intent prior to the deadline and/or were printed onto the election ballot prior to election day.

- 1.** The ranked preferential choice ballot will display all verified candidates and one extra slot reserved for write-in votes.
 - a.** Students will cast their vote by ranking listed candidates in numerical order, with number one (#1) being their first-preference vote for the campaigning office, followed by their subsequent rankings for all following candidates listed on the ballot.
 - i.** Students are not required to rank all candidates listed on the ballot.
 - ii.** In the event a student ballot does not allocate votes towards candidates in the transferred/final vote tallies, their ballot is deemed exhausted, or no longer countable.
 - b.** A write-in vote will default as the voter’s first-preference, and the voter may rank all other Elections Board verified candidates subsequently.

2. Candidates for any executive position, including both Fall Homecoming and Spring SGA Executive officers, shall be elected by a majority of first-preference votes cast.

a. First-preference votes are defined as the voter’s number one candidate ranking.

b. A majority of votes cast is defined as “fifty percent of the votes cast plus one additional vote.”

3. In the event that candidates for any executive office fails to receive a majority of first-preference votes cast –as defined in Article VIII, Section 2C of this constitution— then the ranked choice vote transfer process will begin to unfold until a candidate reaches a majority of votes cast. This process must begin no later than 2 days following the election.

a. The candidate receiving the fewest number of first-preference votes is eliminated. All first-preference votes for the eliminated candidate will also be disregarded.

i. The first round of first-preference votes to be transferred will include ALL write-in votes

ii. In the event a write-in campaign vote tally surpasses one of a verified candidate, all first-preference votes for the specific write-in candidate stay intact, while all other write-in votes and the verified candidate with the fewest number of first-preference votes are eliminated.

b. Any and all second-preference votes indicated on the eliminated candidates’ ballot will then transfer to such candidate.

c. Once the second-preference votes from the eliminated candidate are transferred, a new vote tally will be conducted to determine whether any candidate has attained the majority of the votes cast.

d. This process can be repeated for as many rounds until one single candidate wins a majority of votes cast

~~D. Write in votes shall be permitted in any SGA election.~~

D. This clause defines and details pertinent considerations revolving around ranked preferential choice voting for SGA homecoming, executive, and senate elections.

1. In the United States, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) and Instant Run-off Voting (IRV) are both types of ranked preferential electoral systems that determine a

single-winner while also allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference, as opposed to “first-past-the-post” electoral system.

2. Single Transferable Voting (STV) is an electoral system in the United States designed to determine multiple winners for the purpose of achieving proportional representation, and voters only cast one vote.

i. The candidates are then ranked by the number of votes received until all seats are filled within the specified body, refer to Article VIII, Section 2B.

ii. In the event there are more candidates than seats, UA SGA Senate elections will not adopt ranking preferences on the Senate ballot, as seen in traditional STV voting systems.

~~E. Absentee ballots shall not be permitted in any SGA election.~~

~~F. Candidates for any executive shall be elected by a majority of votes cast.~~

~~1. An A majority of votes cast is equal to fifty percent of the votes cast plus one additional vote.~~

~~2. In the event that candidates for any executive office fail to receive a majority of votes cast, a run-off election shall be conducted no sooner than two days following the election, but not later than ten full academic days after the election, for the two candidates that receive the largest percentage of votes cast.~~

~~G. Candidates for Senate in each school or college shall be ranked in order of votes received from highest to lowest.~~

~~1. Based upon this ranking, candidates for Senate receiving the most votes shall be elected to represent their school or college.~~

~~2. The number chose shall be equal to the apportioned senate seats for each school or college as defined in Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution.~~

~~3. In the event of a tie in the number of votes received by candidates for Senate seats that results in a school or college surpassing the apportioned seats for that school or college, a tie will be broken by a run-off election that shall be on a date determined by the Student Elections Board.~~

E. All SGA elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, via the voting portal on myBama.

F. Write-in votes shall be permitted in any SGA election.

1. A write-in vote option is available to utilize on the SGA Senate ballot

2. A write-in vote option is available to utilize, and rank, on the SGA Homecoming and Executive ballots, refer to Article VIII Section 2C.

G. Absentee ballots shall not be permitted in any SGA election.



Act A-07-21
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authored by: Senator John Dodd

Sponsored by: Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Rachel Cordry

Endorsed by:

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A REFERENDUM ON THE 2022 SPRING ELECTION
BALLOT**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

1. The University of Alabama Elections Board is a group within the Student Government Association made up of twelve students and two professional advisors that are tasked with organizing oversight of all elections held at The University of Alabama.
2. During the 2021 SGA Homecoming Election, the Elections Board caused an invalid Homecoming Queen Election due to gross incompetence yet still continued to carry out the election improperly despite its invalidation.
3. During the 2021 SGA Homecoming Election, the Elections Board failed to post the elections timeline in a timely manner, according to the Student Elections Board Election Manuel. The Elections Board has failed to hold any hearings for students that have petitioned to contest the election. The Elections Board refused to make a public comment after the invalid election was over to provide transparency to the student body.

4. During the 2021 Spring SGA Election, the Elections Board lost a lawsuit after the SGA Judicial Board ruled that the Elections Board had intentionally & maliciously harassed an SGA Senate candidate
5. The University of Alabama is a pristine institution that strives to encourage the members of its student body to participate in democratic practices, such as voting in campus elections.
6. The University of Alabama student body's' right to vote in a clean and fair election is in danger as long as this organization maintains the authority to oversee elections at the University of Alabama.
7. In order for the University of Alabama student body to actually live under democracy, they must be allowed to voice their opinion on who they want and do not want to oversee the elections they vote in.
8. In order for the Student Government Association to document the opinion of the student body in its entirety, the Student Government Association must add a referendum to an election ballot regarding the issue at question.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. ***THEREFORE, be it resolved;*** the Student Government Association shall add a referendum to the 2022 Spring Election ballot.
2. ***Be it further resolved,*** this referendum will ask students the following question in a "yes" or "no" format: "Are you in favor of abolishing the SGA Elections Board and forming a student body that is independent of SGA, and appointed by the Vice President of Student Life, to conduct oversight on all UA elections?"

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Act be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of The University of Alabama; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; James T. Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Advisor of The University of Alabama, Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Donald Elswick, Executive

Director in the Director's Office; Keely Brewer, Editor-In-Chief of *The Crimson White*; Jillian Fields, President of the Student Government Association; Chapman Greer, President of Faculty Senate; Madeline Martin, Vice President for External Affairs of Student Government; Amanda Allen; Vice President for Academic Affairs of Government; Alli Swan, President of Vote Everywhere UA; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff of the Student Government; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date