



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

**Agenda for March 3, 2022
Regular Session**

Jillian Fields
President

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- Taryn Geiger and Justin McCleskey
- III. New Business
 - a. Act A-03-22 AN ACT TO ENSURE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE MET FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA BY PROVIDING CLOSED CAPTIONING FOR ALL PUBLIC MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATIONS
 - b. Resolution R-16-22 A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE UA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO DESIGNATE PARKING SPACES TO VETERANS
 - c. Act A-04-22 AN ACT ESTABLISHING STUDENTS TO KNOW THE IDENTITIES & FUNCTIONS OF THEIR COUNCILORS
 - d. Bill B-05-22 A BILL TO AMEND THE SENATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ALLOW ONLINE AUDIO/VIDEO PLATFORM PARTICIPATION IN SENATE MEETINGS



Act A-03-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Author: Councilor Hallie Bender, Senator Luke Dille, Senator Collier Dobbs

Sponsors: Councilor Caroline Long, Councilor Ella Romine, Councilor Karim Panjawani, Councilor Megan O'Donovan, Councilor Catherine Gray, Councilor Zoe Ladner, Councilor Isabell Trafton, Councilor Antonio Fox, Councilor Grace Murphy, Councilor Hannah Vandiver, Councilor Rachel Narbo, Councilor Jackson Carter, Councilor Kirstin Zimmermann, Councilor Erin Hidalgo,

Endorsements:

AN ACT TO ENSURE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE MET FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA BY PROVIDING CLOSED CAPTIONING FOR ALL PUBLIC MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATIONS

Be it enacted by the First Year Council of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

1. According to section 36.202 of The Americans With Disabilities Act under Title III regulations state “(b) *Participation in unequal benefit.* A public accommodation shall not afford an individual or class of individuals, on the basis of a disability or disabilities of such individual or class, directly, or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangements, with the opportunity to participate in or benefit from a good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation that is not equal to that afforded to other individuals.” and, under Section 36.303 of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act also states “(c) *Effective communication.* A public

accommodation shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities.”

2. Deaf and Hard of Hearing students at the University of Alabama have raised concerns considering the lack of accommodation for deaf and hard of hearing students in media presentations and have expressed a desire for closed captioning in media presentations
3. Without proper accommodations like closed captioning in media presentations given by on campus organizations, students that are hard of hearing or deaf cannot participate
4. The purpose of the University of Alabama is to prepare students for success post-graduation and promote civil engagement and foster inclusion for all students no matter disability
5. Promoting the use of closed captioning on all multimedia presentations in all student organizations on campus should be encouraged to increase accessibility on campus
6. The Office of Information Technology can now provide a *Rev* captioning account through the SGA advisor for the SGA to facilitate closed captioned content to campus organizations ensuring that all requirements are met for accessibility

Section 2. Legislation:

1. ***Therefore, be it resolved,*** in the interest of inclusion of all students including deaf and hard of hearing students, the SGA Senate directs the Financial Affairs Committee of the SGA to require all registered student organizations that receive Student Government Association and Financial Affairs Committee Funding be required to include closed captioning on all public facing media presentations through Rev to engage and include the entire student body at the University of Alabama.
2. ***Therefore, be it further resolved,*** the SGA senate strongly encourages all registered student organizations utilizing public facing multimedia presentations to utilize the SGA and the University of Alabama’s free closed captioning resources and software
3. ***Be it further resolved,*** that copies of this act be sent to: Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice President of Student Life; Cassie Yeager, advisor Financial Aid Committee; Meagan Bennett, Director of Customer Relations of Office of Information Technology; Jillian

Fields, SGA President; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice President; Sullivan Irvine, Vice President for financial affairs; Jack Steinmetz, Vice President of Student Affairs; Madeline Martin, Vice President for External Affairs; Amanda Allen, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Lauren Gilonske, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Will Bradley, FYC Director; Will Stiers, Co-Director of FYC; Colby Lewis, Director of New Organizations and Initiatives of The Source; Angel-Narvaez-Lugo, Interim Advisor Student Governance; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Resolution R-16-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Rachel Cordry

Sponsors: Senator Drew St. Charles, Senator Cameron Doyle, Senator Justin McCleskey, Senator Katie Morris, Senator Lauren Rouse, Senator Aaron Wilkes, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator John Dodd, Senator CJ Pearson, Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Henry Boyle, Senator Taryn Geiger, Senator Alison Gaston, Senator Benner Page, Senator Ruthanne Carter, Senator Jordan Jones, Senator Porter O'Doherty, Senator Grant Haidu

Endorsements: : Jillian Fields, President of the SGA; Amanda Allen, Vice-President of Academic Affairs; Madeline Martin, Executive Secretary; Lauren Gilonske, Vice-President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff; Jahnaya Cosby, SGA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Cabinet's Director of Veteran and Military Affairs

**A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE UA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO
DESIGNATE PARKING SPACES TO VETERANS**

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

WHEREAS, as of 2018 more than 47,000 purple hearts have been awarded to combat veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama is a gold-ranked Military Friendly® School, and the U.S. Veterans Magazine has recognized The University of Alabama as one of the best Veteran-Friendly Schools.

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama currently only has two parking spots designated for recipients of the purple heart,

WHEREAS, there is an estimated 1200 veterans and active duty military members who attend or are employed by The University of Alabama;

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama is striving to become a more inclusive place of higher learning with its DEI initiatives.

WHEREAS, it would be advantageous to the veterans and members of the military who attend The University of Alabama to have more parking spaces for their use;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the SGA encourages the University of Alabama Transportation Services to provide parking spots designated solely for the use of students and faculty who are veterans and the current members of the military.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice President of Student Life; David Blair, Director of Veterans and Military Affairs; Brad Campbell, Assistant Director of Veterans and Military Affairs; Chris D'Esposito, Director of Transportation Services, Amy Haines, Associate Director of Transportation Services, Matthew Fajack, Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Chapman Greer, Faculty Senate President; Dr. Stacy Jones, Interim Dean of Students; Jim Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; 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; Dr. Chapman Greer, President of Faculty Senate; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor of the Student Government Association; Dr. Ruperto Perez, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Well-being; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Act A-04-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Councilor Linden Bronz-Russo, Councilor Rachel Narbo, Councilor Ellie Wiltanger

Sponsors: Senator Sarah Beth Corona

Endorsements: Councilor Maria Derisavi, Councilor Madison Hasnani, Councilor Gabby Kirk, Councilor Claire Roberts, Councilor Ella Romine, Councilor Kendall Smith

AN ACT ESTABLISHING STUDENTS TO KNOW THE IDENTITIES & FUNCTIONS OF THEIR COUNCILORS

Be it enacted by the First Year Council of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

1. First Year Councilors are freshmen’s “go-to representative for SGA in their pocket of campus” according to the SGA website. Additionally, it is stated that “You’ll listen to the concerns of your peers and work with your fellow councilors and other members of SGA to understand and address common challenges through the creation of policy and programs.”
2. Many first-year students do not know which students act as a First Year Councilor or who is a representative of their housing community. A study conducted by Rachel Narbo confirms this finding.
3. Additionally, most freshman on-campus students are not aware of what the First Year Council is meant to accomplish.
4. Students have concerns and ideas to improve the first-year experience at the University of Alabama but do not know where to voice their concerns.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. ***THEREFORE, be it resolved,*** the University of Alabama First Year Council will make available both the contacts and duties of first year councilors through a variety of channels such as informational posters within residential halls and social media posts as deemed appropriate and necessary.
2. ***Be it further resolved,*** this act will be enacted as soon as it is passed and with the possibility of continuing for later FYC groups.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Act be sent to Will Bradley, FYC Director; Angel Narvaez- Lugo, Interim Advisor Student Governance; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice President; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-04-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Justin McCleskey

Sponsors: Senator John Dodd; Senator Jennifer Baggett; Senator Luke Dille; Senator Alison Gaston; Senator Cameron Doyle; Senator Sarah Beth Corona; Senator CJ Pearson; Senator Deborah Oberkor

Endorsements: Graduate Student Association

**A BILL TO AMEND THE SENATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ALLOW
ONLINE AUDIO/VIDEO PLATFORM PARTICIPATION IN SENATE MEETINGS**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. On Campus Accessibility - The Forum Room, used for a majority of Senate Meetings, has a maximum occupancy of 65, preventing students from being able to fully participate to the extent students are allotted. Further, alternative room options are not feasible with the current SGA budget.
- B. Distance Learning - As graduate students and distance learners often have less access to the physical campus, alternate modes of engagement are simultaneously beneficial and necessary. Audio/Video platform participation allows students who cannot physically attend the ability to actively participate. This (a) reduces the number of unnecessary proxies, (b) boosts student representation, and (c) allows for a larger section of the student population a means of participation. Additionally, distance students have readily had the desire and willingness to participate more actively in student life/extracurricular activities.
- C. Feasibility - The Forum Room already has the capacity to do this, and Senate (currently, though not mandated to) allows Audio/Video platform participation for Senators. That same accessibility can be extended to the campus through a public access link.

Section 2. Legislation: **changes in red**

Chapter 500 Senate Meetings

Chapter 500.1 Senate will meet every Thursday at 18:30 at a designated location.

Chapter 500.1.1 A link to participate in Senate Meetings over Audio/Video platforms shall be distributed via the SGA website homepage at least an hour before the designated meeting.

Chapter 500.2 Senate will operate on a biweekly schedule, alternating between Formal Meetings and Committee Meetings.

Chapter 500.2.1 Formal Meetings

Chapter 500.2.1.1 Formal Meetings will occur once every two (2) weeks.

Chapter 500.2.1.2 Old Business of the Senate may only be scheduled during Formal Meetings of the Senate.

Chapter 500.2.2 Committee Meetings

Chapter 500.2.2.1 Committee Meetings will occur once every two (2) weeks, alternating with Formal Meetings.

Chapter 500.3 In the event that the location or time is an issue such that a meeting cannot be held, or if the University of Alabama has suspended operations some time on the day of the meeting, the Speaker of the Senate shall be vested with the authority to cancel the meeting and shall notify all Senate members should he or she decide to take such action.

Chapter 500.4 Formal Senate Dress Code

Chapter 500.4.1 Senators must wear business attire for all formal Senate meetings and all special sessions of the Senate.

Chapter 500.4.2 The requirement of business attire shall not be construed such that it applies to proxies.

Chapter 500.5 Prior to the commencement of legislative business, the Speaker of the Senate shall open the floor to members of the public for the purposes of voicing the concerns and the opinions of the student body and the presentation of petitions.

Chapter 500.5.1 Members of the public will be permitted at least but not exceeding three minutes per person for a total of thirty minutes.

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; Nathan Yamaguchi, SGA Chief of Staff; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; The Crimson White and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.