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Chief of Staff

CJ Pearson

Speaker of the Senate

Caleb Thome

Chief Justice

**The University of Alabama
27th Student Senate
2022-2023**

**Agenda for September 21st, 2022
Regular Session**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Announcements
 - a. Capstone Creed and SGA Mission Statement
- III. Old Business
 - a. Bill B-12-22 **A BILL TO REVISE THE DUTIES OF SENATORS IN THE SGA CODE OF LAWS**
 - b. Bill B-13-22 **A BILL TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC VOTING IN THE SENATE**
- IV. New Business
 - a. B-15-22 **A BILL TO REVISE THE TIME FRAME OF FIRST YEAR COUNCIL SEAT ALLOCATION**
 - b. R-23-22 **A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE THE SEATS FOR THE 2022-2023 FIRST YEAR COUNCIL**
 - c. C-1-22 **AN AMMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF AN ACT OF THE SENATE**
 - d. B-16-22 **A BILL REQUIRING THE POSTING OF THE SENATE DOCKET TO THE SGA WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES PRIOR TO ALL SENATE MEETINGS**
 - e. B-17-22 **A BILL TO REVISE OFFICE HOURS IN THE SGA CODE OF LAWS**
 - f. B-18-22 **AN ACT TO RATIFY THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR**
 - g. B-19-22 **A BILL TO REVISE THE SPEAKERSHIP OF FIRST YEAR COUNCIL**
- V. Adjourn



Bill B-12-22
The University of
Alabama 27th Senate
2022-2023

Authors: Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Speaker of the Senate CJ Pearson

Sponsors: Senator Clay Bruce, Senator Karina Collins, Senator Maria Derisavi, Senator Noel Keeney, Senator Xzarria Peterson, Senator Tyler Tannehill, Secretary of the Senate Taryn Geiger, Senator Noel Keeney

Endorsements: Luke Dille, Vice President for Student Affairs;

**A BILL TO REVISE THE DUTIES OF SENATORS
IN THE SGA CODE OF LAWS**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. According to Chapter 302.2 of the Code of Laws, Senators “shall make themselves accessible and accountable to their constituents”
- B. Currently, Senators are not formally required to meet with their constituents beyond regular Senate and Committee meetings and through the practice of office hours
- C. To increase transparency and accessibility in the SGA Senate, Chapter 302.2 shall be amended to require senators to plan and execute outreach events for constituents in their college

Section 2. Legislation:

Chapter 302 Duties of Senators

Chapter 302.2 *Senators shall make themselves accessible and accountable to their constituents.*

Chapter 302.2.1 *Senators must plan, execute, or participate in at least one*

outreach event for their respective college per academic semester, such as a 'Town Hall', 'Meet Your Senator', or tabling event

Chapter 302.2.2 *Planned outreach events must be submitted and approved by the Secretary of the Senate or he/she's designee. Failure to plan, execute, or participate in at least one event each semester will result in one unexcused absence per each event missed.*

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor; *The Crimson White*; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-13-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Tyler Tannehill

Sponsors: Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Senator Viprav Raju, Senator Tolulope Kolapo, Senator Noel Keeney, Senator Myles Gollop

Endorsements:

A BILL TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC VOTING IN THE SENATE

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. Only roll call votes are provided to student media organizations concerning the individual vote of a senator.
- B. In pursuit of transparency, all branches of the SGA must openly inform of their actions to all students in the most expedited and effective means possible.

Section 2. Legislation:

Chapter 201. The Secretary of the Senate

Chapter 201.1 The Secretary of the Senate shall submit all roll call vote results, along with the corresponding Yea/Nay/Abstention vote of each present senator, to The Crimson White Media Group, WVUA, and any other registered student media organization that submits a request prior to or in the day following each respective senate meeting or special session. This task shall be completed within 5 calendar days following each meeting of the senate.

Chapter 201.1 The Secretary of the Senate shall submit all roll call vote results **and all electronically recorded votes**, along with the corresponding Yea/Nay/Abstention vote of each present senator, to The Crimson White Media Group, WVUA, and any other registered student media organization that submits a request prior to or in the day following each respective senate meeting or special session. This task shall be completed within 5 calendar days following each meeting of the senate.

Chapter 300 Committees

Chapter 300.1.4 The Rules Committee's duties shall include but are not limited to:

Chapter 300.1.4.4. Reviewing the current method of recording electronic votes cast by senators.

Chapter 501 Special Rules of the Senate

Chapter 501.1 Proxies

Chapter 501.5.3 A proxy shall be able to vote on all business before the Senate in place of the Senator they are representing, including voting on all legislation, motions, and confirmations.

Chapter 501.5.3.3 A proxy shall have their vote included at any time an electronic vote is conducted.

Chapter 501.6 Electronic Voting

Chapter 501.6.1. The vote or abstention of a senator shall be electronically recorded when considering legislation.

Chapter 501.6.1.1 Electronically recorded votes include a vote or abstention on bills, acts, and resolutions.

Chapter 501.6.2. The vote or abstention of a senator shall be electronically recorded when considering confirmations.

Chapter 501.6.3. In the case that roll call votes are mandated, electronic voting will not apply nor supersede that rule that mandates a roll call vote.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Angel Navarez-Lugo, Advisor; *The Crimson White*; and others as may deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-15-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate
2022-2023

Authors: Senator Sam Akins, Senator John Richardson

Sponsors: Speaker of The Senate CJ Pearson, Secretary of The Senate Taryn Geiger, Senator Jennifer Baggett

Endorsements: Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President; Alex Howard, First Year Council Director; Nick Tolbert, Assistant First Year Council Director, Luke Dille; Vice President of Student Affairs

**A BILL TO REVISE THE TIME FRAME OF FIRST YEAR COUNCIL SEAT
ALLOCATION**

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

Section 1. Findings:

1. Currently the Code of Laws requires the Senate to confirm the allocation of First Year Council seats by the third week of classes.
2. University housing is responsible for providing the allocation data to the Student Government Association. However, they have no responsibility to follow the short timeframe laid out within the Code of Laws.
3. As of the first three weeks of class, the Student Government Association has not received the data to fulfill their duty as outlined in the Code of Laws.
4. Therefore, in pursuit of transparency, the Code of Laws should be changed to better reflect the relationship between housing and Student Government Association.
5. University housing will continue to deliver the allocation information to the Student Government Association.
6. There is no substantive change to the allocation process.

Section 2. Legislation:

Chapter 905: Allocation of Seats of the First Year Council

- **Chapter 905.2** The allocation of First Year Council seats shall be confirmed a majority vote of the Senate and approved by the SGA President. The allocation of First Year council seats must be confirmed no later than ~~the third week of class during the fall semester.~~ the final selections for First Year Council.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President; Angel Navarez-Lugo, SGA Advisor; Josie Schmitt, Executive Secretary; Nick Tolbert, First Year Council Director; *The Crimson White*; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



**Resolution R-23-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate 2022-2023**

Authors: Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President, Senator Ellie Wiltanger

Sponsors: Senator John Richardson, Senator Sam Akins, Speaker of the Senate CJ Pearson, Secretary of the Senate Taryn Geiger

Endorsements: Alex Howard, Director of First Year Council; Nick Tolbert, Assistant Director First Year Council

A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE OF THE SEATS FOR 2022-2023 FIRST YEAR COUNCIL

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

WHEREAS, In accordance with the Student Government Association Constitution, The First Year Council shall be a body of sixty-five first year students; and,

WHEREAS, Membership in First Year Council will be representative of campus residence halls, with additional allocation strictly based on merit; and,

WHEREAS, Thirty-three of the sixty-five council seats shall be allocated in proportion to the first year student populations within the residence halls

WHEREAS, Each residence hall with a first year population shall be allocated at least one council seat. At least one seat in the FYC shall be designated as a representative for students who do not live in the residence halls; and,

WHEREAS, The First Year Council Selections Committee will have discretion over determining the number of seats given to each residence hall based on population numbers provided by the Residence Hall Association; and,

WHEREAS, Three seats in the FYC shall be designated as "At-Large Seats." These seats will serve the purpose of representing first year students who do not live in residence halls; and,

Therefore, be it resolved, The University of Alabama Student Government Association Senate shall confirm the above allocation for the 2022-2023 First Year Council Seats according to the attached relevant data.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Angel Narvaez-Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Josie Schmitt, Executive Secretary; The Crimson White; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Constitutional Amendment C-1-22

The University of Alabama 27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Speaker of The Senate CJ Pearson

Sponsors: Senator Kieghan Nangle, Secretary of The Senate Taryn Geiger, Senator Noel Kenney, Senator Xzarria Peterson, Senator Jack Rudder, Senator Clay Bruce, Senator Tyler Tannehill, Senator Jennifer Baggett

Endorsements: Collier Dobbs, Vice President of External Affairs; Lauryn Parker, Vice President of Financial Affairs; Josie Schmitt, Executive Secretary, Luke Dille; Vice President of Student Affairs

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF AN ACT OF THE SENATE

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. In a recent decision issued by the Judicial Board, it was ordered by the Court that A-03-21 was invalidated under the pretense that it did not pertain to “matters involving “some sort of monetary allocation”.
- B. However, it has long been the practice and interpretation of the legislative branch of the Student Government Association that an Act pertains to all actions, initiatives, and/or programming to be carried out by the Student Government Association, with and without monetary allocation.
- C. As a result of the recent opinion of the Judicial Board, it has now become both a pressing and urgent need to further clarify the legislative actions that rightly fall underneath the category of “Act”.

Section 2. Amendment to the Constitution: changes in red

ARTICLE III - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 8: Presentation and passage of legislation. Two-thirds of the Senate's voting members shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

A. All legislation of the Senate shall be categorized as follows:

1. Acts of Senate: Acts which authorize or mandate the Executive Branch to begin a new SGA program, **project or initiative, or allocation of the SGA budget**. All Acts of Senate are subject to presidential veto as outlined in Article IV, Section 5, subsection J.
2. Bills of Law: The SGA Budget and amendments to the SGA Code of Laws. All Bills of Law are subject to presidential veto as outlined in Article IV, Section 5, subsection J.
3. Resolutions: Expressions of sentiment of the Senate, which are not subject to presidential veto outlined in Article IV, Section 5, subsection J(3).



Bill B-16-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate
2022-2023

Authors: Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Senator Tyler Tannehill

Sponsors: Senator Karina Collins, Senator Xzarria Peterson

Endorsements:

A BILL REQUIRING THE POSTING OF THE SENATE DOCKET TO THE SGA WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES PRIOR TO ALL SENATE MEETINGS

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. In a recent decision issued by the Judicial Board, it was ordered by the Court that A-03-21, which required the posting of the Senate docket prior to Senate meetings, was invalidated under the pretense that it did not pertain to “matters involving “some sort of monetary allocation”.
- B. To continue the mission of increasing transparency and accessibility in SGA, this bill aims to reestablish the requirement of posting the Senate docket to both the SGA website and social media outlets prior to all Senate meetings.

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 202 Appointed Officers

Chapter 202.1 Webmaster

Chapter 202.1.3 Duties and Restrictions

Chapter 202.1.3.5 The SGA Webmaster shall be responsible for receiving the weekly Senate docket from the Secretary of the Senate and posting it on the SGA website at least 24 hours prior to Senate meetings.

Chapter 202.4 Director of Communications

Chapter 202.4.5 The Director of Communications shall be responsible for working with the SGA Webmaster and/or Press Secretary to post the weekly Senate docket link on all SGA social media platforms at least 24 hours prior to Senate meetings (ex: Instagram, Facebook, etc.).

Chapter 303 Officers of the Senate

Chapter 303.5 Secretary of the Senate

Chapter 303.5.5 The Secretary of the Senate shall be responsible for sending the weekly Senate docket to the Webmaster and Director of Communications so that they can publish the docket publicly at least 24 hours prior to Senate meetings.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor; Taryn Geiger, Secretary of Senate; Sid Elkins, Webmaster; Claire Dubreuil, Director of Communications; Bhavana Ravala, Editor-in-Chief, *The Crimson White*; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-17-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate
2022-2023

Authors: Senator Xzarria Peterson

Sponsors: Senator Tyler Tannehill, Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Senator Karina Collins

A BILL TO REVISE OFFICE HOURS IN THE SGA CODE OF LAWS

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. Keeping a record of consistent office hours for each Senator can encourage the student body to schedule meeting times in the future.
- B. Clarification of SGA elected and appointed members' requirements concerning office hours will alleviate future confusion.
- C. The SGA website will contain an up-to-date calendar with all one-hour blocks for Senators and it will be updated as things are subject to change

Section 2. Legislation:

Chapter 302 Duties of Senators

Chapter 302.1 Senators shall address all concerns of the student body of the University of Alabama.

Chapter 302.2 Senators shall make themselves accessible and accountable to their constituents.

Chapter 302.3 Attendance

Chapter 302.3.1 A Senator who must be absent from a Senate meeting for any reason must notify the Secretary of the Senate, in writing, at least twenty-four hours prior to the convening of the next Senate meeting.

Chapter 302.3.2 If the reason for the Senator's absence is due to their being present at an event representing the University of Alabama or the Student Government Association in an official capacity (e.g., conferences, awards banquets) shall be deemed an excused absence.

Chapter 302.3.3 If the reason for the Senator's absence is any other reason, it shall be deemed an unexcused absence. The Secretary of the Senate shall hold the authority to determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Chapter 302.3.4 A Senator shall resign if any conflict causes him or her to be unable to attend regular business meetings of the Senate.

Chapter 302.4 Office Hours

Chapter 302.4.1 Each Senator is obligated to perform three office hours per week for every academic week in which the Senate has convened.

Chapter 302.4.2 The Speaker of the Senate and the Secretary of the Senate shall be obligated to perform three office hours per week for every academic week in which the Senate has convened.

Chapter 302.4.3 Senators may contribute time spent at any committee meeting, including the meetings of the Financial Affairs Committee, towards the fulfillment of office hours, so long as the time spent in those meetings has been documented.

Chapter 302.4.4 After every four weeks in which the Senate has met, the Secretary of the Senate shall tally the total number of hours completed by each Senator performed during that month.

Chapter 302.4.5 If the average number of office hours is less than three hours per week for Senators or three hours for the officers stated in Chapter 302.4, then the offending Senator shall accrue one unexcused absence.

Chapter 302.4.6 Office hours must be held in the SGA office, be official SGA business not limited to but including activities approved by the President and Executive Council, or be community service performed in Tuscaloosa or surrounding areas.

Chapter 302.4.6.1 Fifty Percent of a member's monthly office hours must be obtained through physical in-office attendance unless otherwise approved by the Executive Secretary.

Chapter 302.4.6.2 One office hour completed in the SGA Office is required to be conducted at a set time and day every week. Exceptions will be made for all undergraduate and graduate Senators at the discretion of the Executive Secretary.

Chapter 302.4.6.3 A schedule of the aforementioned set office hour requirement will be maintained on the SGA website for public viewing and will be updated on a monthly basis per extenuating circumstances(death, illness, prior mandatory commitments)



Bill B-18-22

The University of Alabama

26th Student Senate 2022-2023

Authored by: Vice President for Financial Affairs, Lauryn Parker, Senator John McLendon,
Chair, SGA Senate Finance Committee

Sponsored by: Eric Doh ,SGA Treasurer

**A Bill TO RATIFY THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Senate has the responsibility of adopting a budget to ensure the efficient operation of the Student Government Association; and

WHEREAS, the Vice President for Financial Affairs is obligated to present to the Senate a budget for the upcoming fiscal year; now,

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED THAT, The Senate approves the following budget items for the 2023 Fiscal Year as adopted by the Senate Committee on Finance

- I. Academic Affairs is allocated \$4,000
- II. Awards Banquet is allocated \$8,500
- III. Better Relations Day is allocated \$8,500
- IV. Communications is allocated \$3,300
- V. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion is allocated \$4,000
- VI. Elections is allocated \$4,930
- VII. Executive Vice President \$2,500
- VIII. External Affairs is allocated \$4,000
- IX. FAC Expenses is allocated \$1,000
- X. Financial Affairs is allocated \$1,000
- XI. First Year Council is allocated \$2,000
- XII. Judicial is allocated \$1,000
- XIII. SGA Legal Services \$20,000
- XIV. Senate is allocated \$2,000

- XV. Student Affairs is allocated \$4,000
- XVI. Technology is allocated \$3,000

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT, The Senate allocates \$73,270 to the Executive General Fund as part of the Executive Operating Budget.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT, The Senate allocates \$200,000 to the Financial Affairs Committee (FAC) for reimbursement of organizational expenditures.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT, Copies of this act be sent to the following: Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice President of Student Life; Tynan Kozak, Director of Student Life Business Services; Kendra Powell, Director of Operations for Student Life Business Services; Cassie Yeager, FAC Advisor; all members of the SGA Executive Council; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, SGA Advisor; and *The Crimson White* for informational purposes.



Bill B-19-22
The University of Alabama
27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Sam Akins, Senator John Richardson

Sponsors: Speaker CJ Pearson, Secretary of the Senate Taryn Geiger

Endorsements: Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President; Nick Tolbert, First Year Council Director

A BILL TO REVISE THE SPEAKERSHIP OF FIRST YEAR COUNCIL

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

Section 1. Findings:

1. Currently, the leadership structure of the Senate consists of one permanent Speaker who serves for the duration of their term
2. Oftentimes, membership in the First Year Council serves as a feeder for future leadership within the SGA, most often the Senate
3. In an effort to more closely mirror the leadership structure of the Senate and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the First Year Council, we propose the elimination of the rotating speakership in favor of a permanent speakership.

Section 2. Legislation:

- Chapter 904.3 The ~~Term I~~ Speaker of First Year Council shall preside over First Year Council immediately upon his or her election during the second session of First Year Council.
- Chapter 904.3.1 The ~~Term I~~ Speaker of First Year Council shall be elected by a majority, fifty percent plus one vote, of First Year Councilors.
- ~~Chapter 904.3.2 The aforementioned voting process shall repeat itself to elect a Term II Speaker of First Year Council and Term III Speaker of First Year Council.~~
- ~~Chapter 904.3.3A "Term" in First Year Council shall be equal to the length of time of one-third of First Year Council's meetings throughout the school year.~~

- ~~Chapter 904.3.4 A Councilor who has previously served as a Speaker of First Year Council, regardless of Term, shall not be allowed to be elected to the position for an additional term.~~

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President; Angel Navarez-Lugo, SGA Advisor; Josie Schmitt, Executive Secretary; Nick Tolbert, First Year Council Director; *The Crimson White*; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.