



**Bill B-18-22**  
**The University of Alabama**  
**27th Senate 2022-2023**

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**Sponsors:** Secretary of the Senate Taryn Geiger; Senator Ellie Wiltanger; Senator Lexi Sims; Senator John Richardson; Senator Karina Collins; Senator Myles Gollop; Senator Kieghan Nangle; Senator Sarah-Kate Smalley; Senator John McLendon; Senator Thomas Ashton; Senator Johnny Foster; Senator Nico Boyd; Senator Clay Bruce; Senator Kiley Price; Senator Jennifer Baggett; Senator Ally-Anna Outlaw; Senator Judson Fair; Senator Tolulupe Kolapo; Senator Maria Derisavi; Senator Tyler Zuspann

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**A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS TO CHANGE THE  
STUDENT ORGANIZATION SEATING APPLICATION PROCESS**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The current method of selecting Student Organization Seating (SOS) for athletic events is a long, extraneous process that takes an inordinate amount of time to effectively complete.
- B. Student organizations have experienced a lack of clarity on criteria needed when applying for seating.
- C. The current method is ambiguous and relies heavily on data that is difficult to collect, verify, and quantify.
- D. There are existing University entities that currently collect and quantify the same metrics used to determine the allocation process for SOS.

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

## TITLE XIII

### Chapter 1300 Student Organization Seating Council

Chapter 1300.1 The Student Organization Seating process and all of the committees pertaining to Student Organization Seating shall be divisions of the Cabinet of the Vice President for Student Affairs of the Student Government Association.

Chapter 1300.2 A position under the Vice President of Student Affairs named the Director of Athletics shall be established. The Director of Athletics will be in charge of managing Student Government Association material that deals with athletic events around campus.

Chapter 1300.3 Adhering to the guidelines in this document, a committee consisting of the Vice President for Student Affairs, ~~SGA Advisor~~, Chief of Staff, ~~Deputy Chief of Staff~~, and Director of Athletics shall meet to make practical, logistic, and specific decisions regarding the implementation of Student Organization Seating.

Chapter 1300.3.1 This committee shall be referred to as the Student Organization Seating Council and will meet primarily at the beginning of the SOS process in order to direct its implementation. **The SGA Advisor shall serve as an ex-officio member of the student organization seating council.**

Chapter 1300.3.2 This committee will select the Board of Governors **from among eligible applicants.**

### Chapter 1301 Board of Governors

Chapter 1301.1 The Student Organization Seating Board, hereafter referred to as the “Board of Governors” or “BOG,” shall oversee the selection of student organizations to participate in SOS.

Chapter 1301.2 The BOG shall be a division of the Cabinet of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Chapter 1301.3 The Board of Governors shall consist of ~~nine (9) voting members and one (1) non-voting judicial member.~~ **fourteen (14) voting members and one (1) non-voting judicial board member and one (1) alternate non-voting judicial board member.**

Chapter 1301.3.1 The actively sitting ~~nine (9)~~ **fourteen (14)** voting members shall be selected through a ~~blinded~~ application process. An emphasis must be placed on adequate representation of the student population. ~~The applications for the BOG shall be blinded by separating each candidate’s subjective question answers from his or her activities list.~~ **At a given time, nine (9) of the fourteen (14) members will actively participate in grading. The one (1) non-grading judicial board member shall be active at all times. Five (5) of the fourteen (14) members**

**will serve as alternates and will rotate in for active members throughout the process to replace active BOG members in case of recusal, conflict of interest, or any such matter that results in a vacancy. Five (5) non-active alternate BOG members shall be selected in order to fill any vacancies that may arise. Any one of the five (5) alternates may serve as a temporary and/or permanent replacement to one of the active sitting BOG member in case of a recusal, conflict of interest, or any such matter that results in a vacancy.** In this case, the non-active alternate member shall become active and be eligible to vote.

Chapter 1301.3.2 The non-voting judicial members shall be appointed by the Chief Justice.

Chapter 1301.4 Applications shall be open to the student body **on the SGA website** in December or January and remain open for no less than 15 class days. The Board of Governors must be selected in the spring semester.

Chapter 1301.5 The Board of Governors shall preside over the SOS process, overseeing presentations, grading **presentations packets**, and assigning scores.

Chapter 1301.6 The Board of Governors shall act as an oversight committee during the football season to hear minor, moderate, and major offenses.

Chapter 1301.7 In order to bring up a complaint, one must go through organizational leadership, UAPD, or Gameday Partners.

Chapter 1301.8 These complaints must be brought to the **SGA Vice President of Student Affairs, who will keep track of each complaint for the organizations** and who will convene five (5) Board of Governor members who will decide the offense. ~~and keep track of them for each organization.~~

Chapter 1301.9 Board of Governor members with conflicts of interest must recuse themselves just as they are required to do while grading The Value to Campus and Gameday Experience ~~Packet and~~ Interview.

Chapter 1301.10 A minor offense constitutes as poor behavior by an individual or individuals within an organization. After one warning, an organization will receive a half point penalty on the following year's final SOS score.

Chapter 1301.11 A moderate offense will be constituted as poor behavior by an individual or individuals within an organization or an organization not filling their block in the pictures taken by athletics at a non-SEC game. This will result in a one (1) point penalty for the organization on its final SOS score for the following year.

Chapter 1301.12 A major offense will be constituted as poor behavior by an individual or individuals within an organization or an organization not filling its block in the pictures taken by athletics at a SEC game. This will result in a two (2) point penalty on the following year's final SOS score.

Chapter 1301.13 In the event that behavioral misconduct exceeds a minor, moderate, or major offense, it will be handled by the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Student Government Association Advisor, Gameday Partners, the Office of Student Conduct, and other relevant offices.

#### Chapter 1302 Allocating Seating

Chapter 1302.1 GPA shall count for ~~34% no more than 40%~~ of an overall score, ~~Value to Campus and Gameday Experience Interview~~ **Organization Presentation** shall count for ~~33% no more than 20%~~ of an overall score, **and Community Involvement shall count for 33% of an overall score. Community Involvement will be composed of Bama Pulse Service Hours as 11%, DEI Passport Certification as 11%, and Tide Loyalty Points as 11%. The packet submitted shall count for no more than 40%.**

Chapter 1302.2 To calculate organization GPA, **Bama Pulse Service Hours, DEI Passport Completion, and Tide Loyalty Points**, organizations shall submit a list of names and corresponding CWIDs **commensurate with the number of seats for which the organization is applying.** ~~which will be converted using a GPA conversion scale to be out of 80.~~

Chapter 1302.2.1 This list need not include all members of the organization. Rather, the number of seats for which an organization is eligible shall be equal to the number of members submitted multiplied by 1.5. For instance, if an organization wishes to apply for seventy – five (75) seats, they must submit a list of fifty (50) members. The GPAs of those fifty (50) members shall be averaged together to create the organization's GPA. The maximum number of names an organization can submit is 120.

Chapter 1302.2.2 An individual's GPA will be determined by their most recent spring GPA.

Chapter 1302.2.3 Organizations may submit the GPAs of seniors, as the information pertaining to seniors' accomplishments may be shared in the ~~packet presentation~~ portion of the score. The accolades an organization shares in its presentation ~~and packet~~ shall only be of its members who are enrolled at The University of Alabama in spring semester preceding the football season to which the application applies.

~~Chapter 1302.3 Part of the grading formula shall consist of an interview with the Board of Governors asking questions about the Value to Campus and Gameday Experience categories. 20% 33% of the overall score will be based on an interview with the Board of Governors that will take place at least one week before the first home football game~~

Chapter 1302.3. ~~20%~~ **33%** of the overall score will be based on ~~an interview presentation~~ before the Board of Governors that will take place at least one week prior to the first home football game. **Each presentation will be graded on 5 criteria: Safety in Bryant-Denny Stadium, Value to Gameday Experience, Diversity, Service Efforts/Philanthropic Achievements, and Leadership. Each organization may individually determine how they want to display their commitments towards each of these categories in a material and/or verbal presentation. The SGA Vice President of Student Affairs will be in charge of creating**

~~five (5) categories of questions each year, which is then voted in by the BOG.~~ The Board of Governors will be in charge of creating ~~questions for each category, resulting in~~ a pool of questions ~~for each category~~ to choose from ~~during the interview at the end of the presentation,~~ **should they feel supplemental information is needed.** The ~~interview presentation~~ process will be between the organization president and one other executive member and the Board of Governors. ~~Each response to the five (5) interview questions~~ **Presentation criteria** will be graded by the Board of Governors on a scale from zero (0) to eight (8), resulting in a maximum score of forty (40). **This score will be converted into a percentage of thirty-four (34).** The score for each question will be averaged between the Board of Governors, and the final score of the ~~presentation interview~~ will be added up by each average number for each question. All interviews will be graded fairly and efficiently with the same consistency for each interview.

~~Chapter 1302.4 Part of the grading formula shall consist of a packet that the organizations will submit to the BOG to score that must include but is not limited to details of the organization's leadership, education, diversity, and community service/philanthropy.~~

~~Chapter 1302.4.1 The score an organization receives on its packet will comprise 40% of its overall score.~~

~~Chapter 1302.4.2 The Board of Governors will be tasked with creating the formatting guidelines and rubric for this in the spring and will review and score blinded packets in the summer. The rubric for the packets will be scored out of eighty (80), and the average—score out of eighty (80), of the Board of Governors will be factored into the total score out of 200.~~

~~Chapter 1302.4.3 The packet presented should be printed out and a paper packet will be given each member of the Board of Governors.~~

~~Chapter 1302.4.4 The list of names used to apply for SOS will be blinded, but next to each Crimson email should be a list of positions and activities that person is involved in. This should—be attached to the packet to keep the packet information from being fabricated.~~

~~Chapter 1302.4.5 The Board of Governors will go over each packet in a formal environment all sitting down together in the same room at the same time. If a member of the Board of Governors needs to recuse themselves from the grading process, an alternate will take the spot temporarily or permanently. This will be up to the discretion of the Vice President of Student Affairs.~~

Chapter 1302.4.6 No member of the Student Government Association Executive Council can represent his or her organization in the **presentation interview** process. An executive member from the organization shall take his or her spot.

Chapter 1302.4.6 1 Each member of the Board of Governors shall produce his or her own score for each organization. The individual scores shall be averaged together to produce the **overall presentation interview** score, **out of whatever that number is. The**

**overall presentation score will be added** to the organization's GPA score and **community involvement score.** ~~The highest and lowest of the nine interview scores can be thrown out when making the rankings.~~

Chapter 1302.5 The total score, out of ~~100~~ **200**, for each organization shall be used to rank the organizations.

Chapter 1302.5.1 The SGA Advisor and the Vice President for Student Affairs shall work with Gameday Partners to assign the organizations seats according to the scores provided, with highest scores being given the most preferable seating. ~~The BOG and the VPSA will be responsible for determining which potential areas of the student section are more preferable than others. The BOG and the VPSA will rank these spots and present the ranked map to the interested organizations at their informational meetings.~~ The Vice President for Student Affairs, ~~and~~ Chief of Staff, **and the Director of Athletics** must ~~both~~ **all** sign this map in order for it to be published to the organizations.

~~Chapter 1302.5.2 Organizations will be awarded student organization seating based on the correlation of their ranking to the preference map determined by the BOG.~~

Chapter 1302.5.~~3~~ **2** The BOG shall strongly consider implementing a rotating block of Student Organization Seating that is for organizations who are not awarded season-long seating. This section of seating shall be where the Board of Governors puts the lowest ranking of desirability. The weekly recipients of this section shall be drawn through a lottery.

Chapter 1303 Timeline

**Chapter 1303.1 The Vice President of Student Affairs must conduct no fewer than two informational meetings for organization presidents or representatives after the Board of Governors is selected and before any deadlines regarding contracts, CWID submissions, and presentations.**

**Chapter 1303.1.1 A representative's attendance at one of these meetings is mandatory for an organization to be considered for Student Organization Seating.**

Chapter 1303.~~1~~ **2** To be eligible for student organization seating:

Chapter 1303.~~1~~ **2.2** Organizations must be SOURCE recognized and must attend one of at least two mandatory informational meetings **prior to the start of the fall semester.** ~~in the spring semester. These meetings can be either in-person or virtual.~~

Chapter 1303.~~1~~ **2.3** Organizations must sign **an opt-in** ~~a~~ SOS contract that is created by the Vice President for Student Affairs by the date given by the SOS committee.

Chapter 1303.~~1~~ **2.4** Organizations must submit the CWIDs of the members whose GPAs they wish to be considered by the date given by the SOS committee.

Chapter 1303.~~2~~ **3** The Board of Governors and alternates must be selected and informed of their selection ~~in the month~~ **by the end** of February by the Student Organization Seating Council.

~~Chapter 1303.3 The Board of Governors and Vice President of Student Affairs must conduct no fewer than two informational meetings for organization presidents or representatives after the Board of Governors is selected and before any deadlines regarding contracts, CWID submissions, and interviews.~~

~~Chapter 1303.3.1 A representative's attendance at one of these meetings is mandatory for an organization to be considered for Student Organization Seating.~~

Chapter 1303.4 Interviews must be conducted in enough time to allow for the final map, allotting time for an appeals process, to be released one week before the first home football game.

#### Chapter 1304 Appeals

Chapter 1304.1 The Board of Governors will work with the SGA Judicial Board to hear and determine the appeals process.

Chapter 1304.1.1 **The VPSA will convene the Board of Governors, who will submit a recommendation to the judiciary based on the organization's application final score. The Board of Governors, being shown organization GPAs in the appeals process, will submit a recommendation for each appeal case for the Judicial Board to consider.**

Chapter 1304.1.2 One member of the Board of Governors will sit in on the Judicial Board meetings regarding appeals as a non-voting member.

#### Chapter 1305 ~~Appeals~~ **Conduct and Complaints**

Chapter 1305.1 Conduct violations shall take two forms: behavioral violations and failure to adequately fill seats. Both shall be outlined in the contract to be signed at the end of the Spring semester.

Chapter 1305.2 Behavioral conduct violations shall also be subject to review by the Office of Student Conduct and other relevant offices, and any corresponding penalties will be applicable as those offices see fit.

Chapter 1305.3 All complaints should be sent to the Vice President of Student Affairs who will then convene the Board of Governors.

Chapter 1305.4 The Board of Governors will hear all minor, moderate, and major offenses. After cases are heard, the Board of Governors will make a judgment, and the organization will be penalized on the following year's final SOS score.

#### Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; David Strickland, SGA Attorney General; Caleb Thorne, SGA Chief Justice; Izzy Boyd, SGA Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice

President for Student Life; Joy Grace Webb, Strategic Marketing Coordinator; Courtney Thomas, Senior Director for Center for Service and Leadership; *The Crimson White* and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.