



The University of Alabama

27th Student Senate

2022-2023

Agenda for January 19th, 2023 Regular Session

Taryn Geiger

Speaker of the Senate

Olivia Frazier

Secretary of the Senate

Kieghan Nangle

Speaker Pro-temp

Morgan Patrick

Secretary Pro-temp

John McLendon

Chair, Financial Affairs

Sam Akins

Chair, Student Affairs

John Richardson

Chair, Academic Affairs

Ellie Wiltanger

Chair, External Affairs

Xzarria Peterson

Chair, DEI

Jack Rudder

Chair, Rules

Ally-Anna Outlaw

Chair, Ethics

Bayley St. Clair

Parliamentarian

Carsyn Waldrop

Director of Initiatives

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Announcements
 - a. Capstone Creed and SGA Mission Statement
- III. Old Business
 - a. **B-21-22 A BILL TO REFORM THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SENATE COMMITTEES**
 - b. **B-22-22 A BILL TO REQUIRE STANDING AND IMPLEMENT A STATUTE OF LIMITATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**
 - c. **R-27-22 A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SLEEPING PODS AND 'NAP NOOKS' AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**
- IV. New Business
 - a. **CONFIRMATION OF THE NEW APPOINTEES FOR FIRST YEAR COUNCIL 2022-2023 CLASS**
 - b. **C-1-23 A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE TIMING OF THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS**
 - c. **B-1-23 A BILL TO ADD MONTHLY SENATE TABLING TO THE DUTIES OF SENATORS IN THE CODE OF LAWS**
 - d. **B-2-23 A BILL TO SUSTAIN TRANSPARENCY OF SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
 - e. **A-2-23 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THREE LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES ON THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA CAMPUS**
- V. Adjourn



Bill B-21-22

The University of Alabama

27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Tyler Tannehill, Senator Myles Gollop

Sponsors: Senator Xzarria Peterson, Senator Elizabeth Prophet

Endorsements:

A BILL TO REFORM THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SENATE COMMITTEES

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The intent of Student Government Association Senate Committees is to provide a thorough avenue for legislation to be reviewed and enhanced as well as transparency for students,
- B. Some Senate committee meetings meet on the day of a general Senate meeting instead of holding Senate committee meetings on weeks where the entire Senate does not meet,
- C. The Speaker of the Senate has traditionally announced the result of legislative recommendations made by Senate committees but lack context as to why the Senate committee came to that conclusion,
- D. Minutes of Senate committees are not required to detail as to why a recommendation was made,
- E. Senate committees have the power to table legislation without allowing it to proceed to the Senate floor for a final vote,
- F. Minutes of Senate meetings are not required to detail as to why a tabling of legislation was made,
- G. When legislation is tabled, there is no provision for reconsidering such legislation at a specific time

- H. Two bills have been tabled so far this semester without providing context nor clarification to the student body as to why the respective Senate committee came to their conclusion,
- I. The student body deserves the utmost transparency through the entire legislative process,

Section 2. Legislation (changes in red):

Chapter 300.2 Committees may only conduct business when a quorum of committee membership is present

Chapter 300.2.1 If a committee fails to have a quorum to conduct business, all legislation that has been referred to that committee will proceed to a vote on the Senate floor of the next regular Senate session without committee recommendation or committee postponement of that legislation.

Chapter 300.3 Committee Meetings

Chapter 300.3.6 Committees shall aim to meet on weeks where the entire Senate does not convene.

Chapter 300.3.7 Committees may not meet within 48 hours of a regular Senate session.

~~Chapter 300.4 Committees shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes of meeting time at the beginning of each regular session of the senate.~~

Chapter 501 Special Rules of the Senate

~~Chapter 501.5.4 Be tabled—a majority of Senate committee members present vote for tabling the legislation for further review.~~

Chapter 501.5.4 Be postponed—a majority of Senate committee members present vote for postponing the legislation for further review at their next Senate committee meeting. The same legislation cannot be postponed again.

Chapter 501.8 Addressing Committee Results to the Senate Session

Chapter 501.9 The Speaker of the Senate must call upon any Senate committee chair to address the chamber regarding their last committee meeting and to explain whatever recommendation or postponement decision that was concluded by that respective committee.

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-22-22

The University of Alabama

27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator John Richardson

Sponsors: Senator Jennifer Baggett, Senator Kaleigh Shaw, Senator John McLendon, Senator Keighan Nangle, Senator Seth Hudson, Senator Kiley Price, Senator Karina Collins, Senator Emilia Stuart, Senator Sarah Kate Smalley, Senator Elizabeth Prophet

Endorsements: Chief Justice Caleb Thome, Counselor to the Chief Justice Abilene Morthland, Associate Justice David Ware, President Madeline Martin,

**A BILL TO REQUIRE STANDING AND IMPLEMENT A STATUTE OF
LIMITATIONS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The Student Government Association is modeled after the Federal Government of the United States.
 - a. The Student Judicial Board acts as the *Court of Last Resort* when it comes to judicial review relating to legislation, executive order(s), and government processes.
 - b. The Supreme Court of the United States, in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife* (90-1424), 504 U.S. 555 (1992), established a three-part test to determine whether a party has standing to sue, as Federal courts only have constitutional authority to resolve actual disputes.
 - c. Currently, appeals submitted to the Chief Justice do not require any form of standing to form a panel of inquiry.
- B. Many statutes, both state and Federal, have a statute of limitations for filing legal action(s) against any party.

- a. Currently, appeals regarding legislation, executive order(s), and government processes, have no statute of limitations for filing an appeal for judicial review.
- b. This has resulted in retroactive action impacting legislation passed during a previous session of the SGA Senate and Administrations.
- C. The addition of standing as a requirement for appeal, and implementing a statute of limitations for appeals regarding legislation, executive order(s), and government processes, will promote stability and efficiency within the Student Judicial Board and SGA as a whole.

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 401.4 The Chief Justice may appoint panels of inquiry to perform a judicial review of any legislation or executive order whose constitutionality has been formally questioned by way of written petition to the Student Judicial Board.

Chapter 401.4.1 Each panel of inquiry shall consist of six Associate Justices.

Chapter 401.4.1.1 The Chief Justice shall serve as chair of each panel of inquiry.

Chapter 401.4.1.2 The Chief Justice shall vote only in the case of a tie amongst voting members of the panel.

Chapter 401.4.2 A petition to establish a panel of inquiry may be denied by the Chief Justice if a prior panel of inquiry has previously upheld the constitutionality of said legislation or executive order.

Chapter 401.4.2.1 A petition to establish a panel of inquiry may be denied by the Chief Justice if the complainant(s) lack standing.

Chapter 401.4.2.1.1 In order to have standing the complainant(s) or a party for which the complainant(s) is/are filing on behalf of, must have suffered an "injury in fact," meaning that the injury is (a) concrete and particularized and (b) actual or imminent; There must be a causal connection between the injury and the conduct brought before the court; It must be likely, rather than speculative, that a favorable decision by the court will redress the injury.

Chapter 401.4.2.2 A petition to establish a panel of inquiry regarding the Code of Laws, a Senate Resolution, a Senate Act, an Executive Order, or government process must be submitted to the Chief Justice within sixty (60) days of publication or implementation of such legislation or action.

Chapter 401.4.2.3 A panel of inquiry must be created if the written petition is signed by a Senator, member of Executive Council, or a member of the Student Judicial Board, unless it lacks standing and/or has surpassed sixty (60) days of publication or implementation of such legislation or action.

Section 3. Severability Clause:

If any provision of this Bill shall be held or made invalid by a judiciary decision, statute or rule, or shall be otherwise rendered invalid, the remainder of this Bill shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to: Madeline Martin, President; Caleb Thome, Chief Justice; David Strickland, Attorney General; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; *The Crimson White*; and others that may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Resolution R-27-22

The University of Alabama

27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Tyler Tannehill

Sponsors: Senator Emilia Stuart, Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Senator Karina Collins, Senator Xzarria Peterson

Endorsements:

**A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SLEEPING PODS AND ‘NAP NOOKS’ AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**

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

WHEREAS, Other colleges such as the University of Akron, California State University, University of California, Berkely, Wesleyan University provide sleeping pods for student use; and

WHEREAS, Other colleges such as Washington State University and James Madison University provide spaces for students to sleep on bean bags; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient amount of sleep enhances one’s physical health, mental health, cognitive performance, memory capacity, and success; and,

WHEREAS, Twenty minute naps can increase alertness and improves a person’s mood; and,

WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control emphasizes that sleep deprivation is a national problem with 35% of Americans regularly sleeping less than seven hours a night; and.

WHEREAS, The University of Georgia found in a study that on average, college students get six hours a sleep a night; and

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama provides resources for nutrition and exercise, such as through dining halls and recreation centers, but no campus resources are devoted to students' sleep;

THEREFORE, *be it RESOLVED*, that the Student Government Association urges The University of Alabama to implement sleeping pods at The University of Alabama Student Center and elsewhere deemed necessary that can be reserved by students free of charge;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Association urges The University of Alabama to implement 'nap nooks,' accommodated with bean bags and blankets at locations deemed necessary across campus that can be reserved by students free of charge;

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution 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.



Constitutional Amendment C-1-23

The University of Alabama

27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Madeline Martin, SGA President

Sponsors: Speaker Geiger, Secretary Frazier, Senator Akins, Senator Nangle, Senator Smalley, Senator Golden, Senator Howell, Senator Derisavi, Senator Outlaw, Senator Patrick, Senator Wilson, Senator Wiltanger, Senator Sims, Senator Harnage, Senator McLendon, Senator Baggett

Endorsements: Jack Steinmetz, Executive Vice President; Cameron Doyle, SGA Vice President for Academic Affairs; Lauryn Parker, SGA Vice President for Financial Affairs; Collier Dobbs, SGA Vice President for External Affairs; Josie Schmitt, SGA Executive Secretary; Izzy Boyd, SGA Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Luke Dille, Vice President for Student Affairs; Colin Marcum, SGA Chief of Staff;

A CONSUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE TIMING OF THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS

Section 1. Findings

The State of the School address is established to "take place on the 2nd Tuesday of November each year." This date falls on election day for many local, state, and national offices. With UA's large in-state population, this can create difficulties to leave campus to vote while also attending the State of the School event.

Furthermore, for those who want to watch the election results come in would either miss the State of the School Address or said elections results.

Therefore, the time has come to change the date of the State of the School Address to amplify opportunities for being a civilly engaged student and citizen. The updates are reflected in red.

Section 2. Constitution and Updates

Section 5: Executive Powers and Duties of the President. The President of the Student Government Association shall:

- A. Lead the SGA in achieving the objectives of this Constitution.
- B. Serve as chairperson of the Executive Council.
- C. Appoint the Chief of Staff within ten full class days of the beginning of his or her term of office.
- D. Notify the Senate, in writing, of any vacancies which may occur in the Executive Council or Executive Cabinet, within ten full class days of receiving notice of such vacancy. If the Senate by its adjournment prevents such notice, the notice shall be given at the first meeting of the Senate after its adjournment.
- E. Call special sessions of the Senate when deemed necessary.
- F. Reappoint any appointed officials of the executive branch who serve at the will of the President according to the provisions of Article IV, Section 4.
- G. Form new committees as needed and assign them to the appropriate executive branch officials.
- H. Serve as a member or an ex-officio member of all executive committees.
- I. Deliver the "State of the School Address" each semester.
 - 1. ~~The State of the School Address shall take place on the 2nd Tuesday of November each year.~~ The State of the School Address shall take place in January of each year.
- J. Possess a limited veto power.
 - 1. The SGA President shall exercise veto power as he or she sees fit over all Acts of Senate and Bills of Law passed by the Senate.
 - a. A veto of Acts of Senate and Bills of Law must be done within five full class days after the President's receipt of said legislation.
 - b. After five full class days following the President's initial receipt, all Acts of Senate and Bills of Laws will be considered passed with or without the President's signature unless vetoed.
 - 2. The SGA President shall not possess the right to exercise a line-item veto over all Acts of Senate and Bills of Law passed by the Senate.
 - 3. The SGA President shall not possess the right to exercise a veto or line-item veto on Resolutions passed by the Senate.
- K. Serve as chief liaison between the SGA and organizations internal and external to The University of Alabama.
- L. Serve as the student representative to The University of Alabama System Board of Trustees, or if unable to attend, ensure the Executive Vice President is able to attend.
- M. Schedule Executive Council meetings.
- N. Instruct the incoming SGA President on all matters pertaining to the office of President before leaving office.

Section 3. Ratification

This amendment will become law upon vote by 2/3rds vote of the SGA Senate and referendum of the student body.

Section 4. Legitimacy and Awareness

This amendment, if passed in the Senate by the appropriate margins, will be posted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the Spring SGA Elections on the SGA website for students to review.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Act be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Steven Hood, Vice-President for Student Life; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Taryn Gieger, Speaker of the Senate; Caleb Thome, Chief Justice; Ansley Stamper, Chair of the SGA Elections Board; Dr. Kat Gillan, SGA Elections Board Advisor; *The Crimson White*; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-1-23
The University of Alabama
27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Sam Akins; Senator Johnny Foster

Sponsors:

Endorsements: Madeline Martin, SGA President; Cameron Doyle, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Colin Marcum, Chief of Staff; Lauryn Parker, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Vice President for External Affairs; Collier Dobbs, Josie Schmitt, Executive Secretary

**A BILL TO ADD MONTHLY SENATE TABLING TO THE DUTIES
OF SENATORS IN THE CODE OF LAWS**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The Student Government Association is dedicated to ensuring senators are easily accessible to the student body.
- B. Students may find foreign environments such as the Student Government Association office to be intimidating.
- C. A large percentage of students are unfamiliar with their college's respective senators.
- D. To familiarize the student body with their Senators and increase engagement within the Student Government Association, we propose setting up monthly tabling in academic buildings across campus.
- E. Senate tabling will begin during the 28th Senate.

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 302 Duties of Senators

Chapter 302.8 Senate Tabling

Chapter 302.8.1 Senate Tabling will be conducted in various academic buildings where senators will greet and interact students as well as answer potential questions students may have.

Chapter 302.8.1 Senate Tabling will be held on a certain day during the first full week of each of the six full academic months. The Senate leadership along with the director of initiatives will be responsible for coordinating this event.

Chapter 302.8.2 Each Senator must attend two of these events during their respective term.

Chapter 302.8.3 Each event will be held in at least three different buildings across campus, at least one of which shall house a specific college.

Chapter 302.8.4 The buildings the event will be held in each month will be up to the discretion of the coordinators of the event.

Chapter 302.8.5 During each event, the building chosen to represent a specific college must have a Senator from that college present.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Madeline Martin, SGA President; Josie Schmitt, SGA Executive Secretary; Caleb Thome, SGA Chief Justice; David Strickland, SGA Attorney General; Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice President for Student Life; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; *The Crimson White* and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-2-23

The University of Alabama

27th Senate 2022-2023

Authors: Senator Tyler Tannehill

Sponsors: Senator Elizabeth Prophet, Senator Xzarria Peterson, Senator Ragan Hope Wilson, Senator Myles Gollop

Endorsements:

A BILL TO SUSTAIN TRANSPARENCY OF SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The intent of Student Government Association Senate Committees is to provide a thorough avenue for legislation to be reviewed and enhanced as well as transparency for students,
- B. There are no current requirements for chairs of Senate Committees to invite or notify Senators who author legislation that has been referred to the respective Senate Committee,
- C. Senators who author legislation have missed their chance to inform and provide clarity on to the respective Senate Committee,
- D. The general student body should be just as well-informed as authoring Senators if the Senate is to see optimal engagement with the Senate Committee processes.

Section 2. Legislation (changes in red):

Chapter 300.3 Committee Meetings

~~Chapter 300.4 Committees shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes of meeting time at the beginning of each regular session of the senate.~~

Chapter 300.4 Committee chairs shall notify the sponsors of pending legislation within 24 hours after the respective Committee has decided upon a meeting time and place to consider committee business.

Chapter 300.4.1 Committees cannot decide on a meeting time that gives less than a 24-hour notice.

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.



Act A-2-23
The University of Alabama
27th First Year Council 2022-2023

Author(s): Councilor Cassidy Matwiyoff, Senator Wiltanger

Sponsors: Councilor Anna Benetollo, Councilor Lise Badeaux, Councilor Bryce Holt, Councilor Jensyn Seay, Councilor Kameron Prim, Councilor Sarah McArthur, Councilor Harrison DeLong, Councilor Riley Pyron, Councilor Aydan Graham, Speaker Julianne Pharrams.

Endorsements: Secretary Frazier

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THREE LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES ON THE
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA CAMPUS**

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

Section 1. Findings:

1. *WHEREAS*, the University of Alabama is committed to furthering higher education and intellectual curiosity among its students; and
2. *WHEREAS*, the campus lacks a proximal, low-hassle location to exchange books in the event of a spontaneous desire to read or build rapport among students through an affinity for literature; and

3. *WHEREAS*, the library can prove as a hassle to sort through a vast array of books and meet a strict return date, lest one incurs fees; and
2. *WHEREAS*, through research, material and assembly costs suggest the Little Free Libraries project would cost roughly \$1500 for three pre-built libraries, which includes the trademark charter and rough installation fees.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. *THEREFORE, be it resolved*, that the First Year Council be dedicated to installing little free library boxes to be placed at accessible points on The University of Alabama campus, under the department of Academic Affairs, in an attempt to foster a love for reading and provide easy and free access to novels.
2. *Be it further resolved*, that members of the First Year Council will be encouraged to hold a book donation drive as their First Year Council Service Day project, recurring each year, for stories of all genres, levels, and backgrounds in order to contribute to the libraries.
3. *Be it further resolved*, that the author of this resolution corresponds with members from the cabinet of Academic Affairs to serve as “stewards” of the libraries going forward. Thus, there will be stewards continuously appointed by the cabinet of Academic Affairs.
4. *Be it further resolved*, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association allocates funding for this project and the required materials to assemble the structures.
5. *Be it further resolved*, that the cost for the Little Free Libraries, previously noted as \$1500

for three pre-built, will come from the Executive SGA budget, amendable for the expansion of the project.

6. *Be it further resolved*, that copies of this Act be sent to: Angel

Narvaez-Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Cameron Doyle, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Lauryn Parker, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Bhavana Ravala, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.