



The University of Alabama 28th Student Senate Agenda For February 22, 2024

Jack Rudder

Speaker of the Senate

Jensyn Seay

Secretary of the Senate

Emma Blackmon

External Affairs

Cassidy Matwiyoff

Academic Affairs

Walker Parsons

Financial Affairs

Lucy Bonhaus

Student Affairs

Ben Staley

Ethics and Oversight

Mia Ford

Rules

Kameron Prim

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Announcements
- III. Old Business
 - a. FYC B-03-23 A BILL TO EXTEND PETITIONING RIGHTS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN CHAPTER 906
 - b. B-04-24 A BILL TO INCREASE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH LENGTHENING THE VOTING WINDOW
- IV. New Business
 - a. FYC A-3-24 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT PORJECT Ø
 - b. FYC B-1-23 A BILL TO CORRECT CHAPTER 9 OF THE SGA CODE OF LAWS
 - c. R-15-24 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
 - d. R-16-24 A RESOLUTION PUSHING ADIVISING PROMOTIONS
- V. Adjourn



Bill B-3-23
The University of Alabama
2023-2024 First Year Council

Authors: Councilor Wright, Councilor Langdon

Sponsors: Speaker Olson, Secretary Bulger, Councilor March, Councilor Gwin, Councilor Fountain, Councilor Markham, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Claburn, Councilor Scofield, Councilor Chbeir, Councilor Howe, Councilor Jones, Councilor Lanctot, Councilor Davis, Councilor Bigsby, Councilor Lyda, Councilor McWilliams, Councilor Olson, Councilor Hutt, Councilor Mintz, Councilor Rosenau, Councilor Cabage, Councilor Hobbs, Councilor Pusateri, Councilor Rider, Councilor Bond, Councilor Priestler, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Makobongo, Councilor Thomas, Councilor Roberts, Councilor Cook, Councilor Fulghum, Councilor Petrie, Councilor Ealy, Councilor Richardson, Councilor Reid, Councilor Tubbs

**A BILL TO EXTEND PETITIONING RIGHTS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN
CHAPTER 906**

Section 1. Findings:

1. Freshmen lack the ability to pursue change regarding specific campus issues through the calling of legislative action.
2. Creating petition rights will allow students to bring awareness to specific issues and call for legislative action in those issues.
3. This extension of petition rights will encourage greater involvement and engagement with the First Year Council.
4. Petitioning is currently only allowed for impeachment and amendments to the Constitution, as outlined in Article IX, Section 2.A and Article X, Section 2.A, respectively.
5. First Year Councilors need greater understanding of freshmen issues that would otherwise be unheard.
6. Chapter 906 outlines First Year Council's presentation and passage of legislation, but there is currently no line of contact for freshmen to present their concerns that will guarantee committee review
7. Petitioning rights further support Chapter 903.1 and 903.2

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 904.5 The Secretary of the First Year Council shall:

Chapter 904.5.1 Be elected from within the membership of the First Year Council by majority vote, fifty percent plus one vote, of the First Year Council.

Chapter 904.5.2 Prepare legislation for First Year Councilors to review.

Chapter 904.5.3 Maintain a record of all proceedings of the First Year Councilors and attendance of its members.

Chapter 904.5.4 Maintain a record of all final copies of legislation passed by the First Year Council.

Chapter 904.5.5 Provide copies of all legislation passed by the First Year Council to the SGA Webmaster, to post FYC legislation on the SGA Website.

Chapter 904.5.6 Receive and send freshmen legislative action petitions to respective committee

Chapter 906.15 Any freshmen student has the right to bring direct action to a concern or issue through a formal petition process.

Chapter 906.15.1 Freshmen wishing to pursue a concern must strictly follow the instructions provided by the First Year Council, as seen on the Student Government Website.

Chapter 906.15.2 If a petition calling for legislative action is sent by the secretary to its respected committee, the committee must meet to discuss whether they want to turn this petition into legislation.

Chapter 906.15.3 The committee members must approve or table the petition's call for legislative action through a majority vote. If there is a tie, the committee head will break the tie.

Chapter 906.15.4 If the committee tables the petition, they must formally address the petitioner in why they did not approve the petition.

Chapter 906.15.5 If it is decided that the petition will be written into legislation, the committee will decide who the authors will be at their discretion.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Luke Dille and Cameron Doyle, Co-Directors of the First Year Council; Josie Schmidt, Executive Vice President; Collier Dobbs, SGA President; Jack Rudder, Speaker of the Senate; Olivia Frazier, Executive Secretary; Katerina Werkhaven, SGA Webmaster, and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-04-24

The University of Alabama

28th Senate 2023-2024

Authors: Senator Eyram Gbeddy

Sponsors: Senator Sam Badger, Senator Ragan Hope Wilson, Senator Eleanor Israel

Endorsements: Rolland Grady, President of UA Votes

**A BILL TO INCREASE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH LENGTHENING
THE VOTING WINDOW**

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The mission of the University of Alabama Student Government Association is to guarantee a student voice in University decisions, to train ourselves in democratic government and promote citizenship on campus. Keeping turnout as high as possible is a key part of keeping student voices at the forefront of SGA.
- B. The last two Spring elections have had technical difficulties for the first few hours of voting
- C. Turnout in the last Spring SGA Election was less than a third of the student body.
- D. Voting in the 21st century is simply different from the way it was historically. In the last US presidential election, over 70% of ballots were not cast on election day. It is no coincidence that it had the highest turnout in history.

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Title VII, Chapters 700-799 - Election Law

Chapter 704 Election Procedure

Chapter 704.1 Effective in January of 2025, in addition to following all rules and guidelines set in the annual elections board manual, the Spring SGA election period shall always last for at least 48 hours.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Collier Dobbs, SGA President; Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Scott Sonnier, Chair of the SGA Elections Board; Ashlee Woods, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.

.



Act A-3-24
The University of Alabama
First Year Council 2023-2024

Authors: Councilor Ealy and Councilor Gwin

Sponsors: Speaker Olson, Councilor Jones, Councilor Lancot, Councilor Claburn, Councilor March, Councilor Fountain, Councilor Couey, Councilor Reid, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Langdon, Councilor Markham, Councilor Fulghum, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Roberts, Councilor Chandash, Councilor Hutt, Councilor Rosenau, Councilor Priester, Councilor Pusateri, Councilor Jung, Councilor Mintz, and Councilor Scofield.

Endorsements: Senator Clevenger, Executive Secretary Frazier, and End Overdose.

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT PROJECT Ø

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

Section 1. Findings:

1. There is an ongoing Fentanyl crisis in the United States.
2. End Overdose at the University of Alabama provides Naloxone training.
3. Drug-related deaths topped 112,000 in 2023.
4. Many students are unaware of overdose symptoms. Section 2.

Legislation:

1. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The First Year Council of The University of Alabama shall implement Project Ø which shall consist of putting Naloxone kits in AED kits as well as hosting ‘Week of Trainings,’ in partnership with End Overdose, in each Residence Hall.

2. ***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:*** The University of Alabama Student Government Association supports this program through marketing tactics to promote such events.

3. ***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:*** Copies of this act be sent to Luke Dille and Cameron Doyle, Co-Directors of the First Year Council; Josie Schmitt, Executive Vice President; Dobbs, SGA President; Olivia Frazier, Executive Secretary; Katerina Werkhaven, SGA Webmaster; Ashlee Woods, Editor-in-Chief of The Crimson White, Tyler Zuspann, President of End Overdose, Dr. Steven Hood, Vice President of Student Life, Andrew Fairburn, Vice President of Student Affairs, Joe Kelly, Director of Residential Communities; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Bill B-1-23
The University of Alabama
First Year Council 2023-2024

Authors: Councilor Mintz, Councilor Finley Richardson

Sponsors: Councilor K. Olson, Councilor Bulger, Councilor Simmons, Councilor Pusateri, Councilor McCarthy, Councilor Hobbs, Councilor Howe, Councilor Langdon, Councilor Priester, Councilor McFall, Councilor Chandash, Councilor E. Olson, Councilor Thomas, Councilor Ealy

Endorsements: Senator Aydan Graham, Senator Hidy Kirkpatrick

A BILL TO CORRECT CHAPTER 9 OF THE SGA CODE OF LAWS

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

Section 1. Findings:

- A. The Student Government Association (hereafter referred to as SGA) Code of Laws currently states that there are 50 members in the First Year Council each year (Chapter 901.2). The First Year Council is composed of 65 first-year students, not 50.
- B. The speaker of the council serves for the duration of the academic year, not by term. The qualifier "Term 1" is obsolete and misleading (Chapter 904.2).
- C. The SGA Code of Laws states that the Secretary must maintain a record of all proceedings and attendance (Chapter 904.5.3). Instead, they will record *meeting minutes*.
- D. Any absence without a proxy shall count as one attendance point, not two as it currently states (Chapter 907.1.1.3).

Section 2. Legislation: changes in red

Chapter 901.2 A ~~fifty-member~~ **sixty-five**-member legislative body titled "First Year Council" shall fulfill the legislative responsibilities of First Year Council.

Chapter 904.2 The Executive Vice President shall preside over the First Year Council prior to the election of the ~~Term I~~ Speaker of the First Year Council.

Chapter 904.2.1 The Executive Vice President shall have no vote except to break a tie.

Chapter 904.2.2 The Executive Vice President may vote to break a tie in the election of the Speaker of the

Chapter 904.2.3 The Executive Vice President may choose to refrain from breaking a tie in order to force further discussion on legislation or the election of the ~~Term-I~~ Speaker of First Year Council.

Chapter 904.2.4 It is necessary that the Executive Vice President be present to cast a tiebreaking vote.

Chapter 904.5 The Secretary of the First Year Council shall:

Chapter 904.5.1 Be elected from within the membership of the First Year Council by a majority vote, fifty percent plus one vote, of the First Year Council.

Chapter 904.5.2 Prepare legislation for First Year Councilors to review.

Chapter 904.5.3 Maintain a record of all ~~proceedings~~ meeting minutes of the First Year Councilors and attendance of its members.

Chapter 904.5.4 Maintain a record of all final copies of legislation passed by the First Year Council.

Chapter 904.5.5 Provide copies of all legislation passed by the First Year Council to the SGA Webmaster, to post FYC legislation on the SGA Website.

Chapter 907 Standing Rules of First Year Council

Chapter 907.1 Absences

Chapter 907.1.1.3 Any absence without a proxy shall count as ~~two full points~~ one full point.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Luke Dille and Cameron Doyle, Co-Directors of the First Year Council; Josie Schmidt, Executive Vice President; Collier Dobbs, SGA President; Olivia Frazier, Executive Secretary; Katerina Werkhaven, SGA Webmaster; Ashlee Woods, Editor-in-Chief of The Crimson White; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Resolution R-15-24

The University of Alabama

28th Senate 2023-2024

Authors: Senator Sam Badger

Sponsors: Senator Ragan Hope Wilson, Senator Eyram Gbeddy, Senator Adefunke Eruobodo, Senator Kazi Shakib, Senator Tolu Sanni, Senator Eleanor Israel

Endorsements: SGA President Collier Dobbs, SGA VP for External Affairs Samad Gillani, GSA President Dalis Lampkins

**A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

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

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) performs the crucial civic and academic service of “collect[ing] and preserv[ing] the historical materials of the people of Alabama,” and “us[ing] that material in sharing their stories.”

WHEREAS, the ADAH preserves political papers, newspapers, government records, photographs, church and synagogue records, genealogical records and other historical artifacts for public and private research, produces and displays exhibitions on Alabama history for public education, offers professional development workshops and paid internships for aspiring

historians and archivists, curates lesson plans for Alabama K-12 teachers, hosts research presentations, and performs other tasks related to its mission.

WHEREAS, the ADAH Board of Trustees has recently come under political attack.

WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature convenes in regular annual sessions beginning on the first Tuesday in February.

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association (SGA) Mission Statement requires its Senate to “serve the common interest of students” and the Capstone Creed requires University of Alabama (UA) students to “pursue knowledge; act with fairness...promote equity and inclusion [and] foster individual and civic responsibility.”

WHEREAS, all UA students, especially graduate students and those who hope to pursue careers in academia, have an interest in the competent preservation and teaching of Alabama history.

WHEREAS, many UA students, especially those of history, political science, journalism, and English, make frequent use of the archival material and resources of the ADAH for their research, and therefore have a particular interest in the competence of its Board of Trustees.

WHEREAS, many UA students hope to pursue internships and careers in public history, library science, and museum studies, especially at the ADAH and similar institutions in the state of Alabama, and therefore have a particular interest in the maintenance of depoliticized and meritbased hiring and firing practices at said institutions.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the SGA Senate commends the ADAH Board of Trustees for its skillful administration of the ADAH, ensuring that the organization will continue to successfully fulfill its mission to preserve and tell Alabama’s history, including the history of women, African Americans, and LGBTQ people in the state.

Be it further resolved, that the SGA Senate commits itself to the principles of freedom of speech, academic freedom, and the apolitical administration of public archives and libraries.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to Dr. Stuart Bell, President of the University of Alabama, Delores Byrd, Chair of the ADAH Board of Trustees, Ashlee Woods, *Crimson White* Editor-in-Chief, and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Resolution R-16-24
The University of Alabama
28th Senate 2023-2024

Authors: Senator Stella Jeffcoat

Sponsors: Senator Walker Parsons, Senator Chloe Pickle, Senator Kendall Stanton, Senator Leo Denning, Secretary Jensyn Seay, Senator Cassidy Matwiyoff, Senator Ragan Hope Wilson, Senator Madison Wiltshire

Endorsements: Vice President for Student Life Andrew Fairburn, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Johnny Foster, Press Secretary Sarah Beth Corona

A RESOLUTION PUSHING ADVISING PROMOTIONS

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

WHEREAS, Culverhouse Students, Arts and Sciences Students, School of Social Work Students, Nursing School Students, College of Education Students, and College of Engineering Students must undergo advising in order to get their pin cleared before registering for classes the following semester.

WHEREAS A high percentage of students are not able to make appointments until after their registration date

WHEREAS specifically, the Culverhouse College of Business makes up 25% of the student body

WHEREAS The University of Alabama set a new enrollment record of 39,623 students

THEREFORE, be it resolved, Student Government Association Instagram will promote each college Instagram account to increase student engagement and efficiency and advertise special advising promotions - such as Honors College and Greek Week Advising during the halfway point between enrollment and registration. The Culverhouse College of Business Advising Office will send emails reminding students of advising appointments on the second day of the academic semester.

Be it further resolved those copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Steven Hood, Vice President of Student Life; Collier Dobbs, President of the Student Government Association; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.