Agenda Item: SB1806 - A BILL TO AMEND RULES OF PROCEDURES

Date: Monday, April 16th, 2018

Author: Senator Samuel Santos, School of International and Public Affairs

Sponsors: Senator Brandon Aquino, Senator at Large; Maria Ribeiro, Lower Division; Rose Ingraham, Lower Division

A BILL TO AMEND RULES OF PROCEDURES

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF FIU

Section I: Policy
The proposal outlined in this Council Bill are in compliance with the authority granted in Article III, Section 5.A. of the Student Government Association Constitution;

Section II: Terms
The following terms are defined as to ensure the legality of this resolution:
“SGA” will hereby refer to the Student Government Association at Florida International University,
   a. “The Senate” refers to the Senate of the Student Government Association at Florida International University,
   b. “Our University” refers to Florida International University,
   c. “SGA-MMC” refers to the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus,
   d. “Agency” refers to a division of the Executive Branch
   e. “Council” refers to a division of the Executive Branch
Section III: Bill

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED Article II, Section 3.02.A of the SGC-MMC Statutes be amended as follows:

Section 3.02 Absences

(a) To be counted as present, Student Government Council members must be present for a majority of the meeting.

   (i) Senators who are tardy and/or leave early, and stay for less than the majority of the meeting shall be considered absent, regardless of whether they presented an excuse. Should a senator have submitted an excuse for late arrival or early departure, then the absence shall be considered excused; otherwise the absence is considered unexcused.

   (ii) Senators may attend Senate meetings virtually only during the summer semester in the case that they have an excused absence, however they will not be counted towards quorum

   (iii) The Clerk of Council shall be responsible for recording the time of arrival for tardy senators, and time of departure for those who leave early.

(b) Senators shall not be allowed more than two (2) unexcused absences from Senate meetings per Fall and per Spring Semester (Summer semester excluded)

   (i) For an absence to be considered excused, the senator shall notify the Senate Speaker and Clerk of Council no later than 30 minutes before the meeting.

   (ii) Upon the second unexcused absence, the senator shall be notified by the Internal Affairs Committee or Committee Chair.
(iii) The notification shall inform the Senator that they are at risk of being reviewed for impeachment, upon the second unexcused absence the Senator shall have their voting rights and floor privileges suspended and placed on priority review for impeachment.

(iv) The Senator may have the choices of resignation or to defend their case before the Senate during the impeachment trial.

(v) Senators that come in to a Senate meeting more than fifteen (15) minutes without providing prior notification or documented proof for being tardy to the Speaker and Internal Affair chair by the end of that day (11:59 P.M.) will have their attendance for that meeting marked as an unexcused Absence.

(vi) If a Senator leaves a Senate meeting prior to 5:01 P.M., if it is a full time meeting or the majority time of a meeting that ends sooner will be considered absent.

(vii) Senators that have a class that begins at 5 P.M. or later during Senate meetings and have documented proof that the class is the only one offered and will affect the Senator's graduation will be excused from being counted absent for leaving early.

(1) Documented proof will include a written statement from the Professor, Dean and Academic Advisor.

(2) Senators that fall under this exemption will be required to make up the time missed during the Senate meeting in the form of one (1) additional office hour in the same week of the Senate meeting.

(viii) Failure to enforce this requirement within one (1) week of the third unexcused absence shall constitute a violation of this statute and will amount to a nonfeasance
Section IV: Enforcement
This Bill shall be presented to the Student Body, the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs, and all relevant committees on behalf of the Student Body by the SGA;

Section V: Enactment
This Bill and all its contents shall be the official law of the SGC-MMC upon passage by the SGC-MMC Senate and approval of the FIU-MMC Student Body President;

Section VI: Implementation
Upon the enactment of this council bill, this shall be the official law of the SGC-MMC and shall make any prior legislation that conflicts with this legislation hereby null and void; upon the passage and approval of this special act the contents of it shall be made incorporated into the SGC-MMC Statutes and those provisions of the SGC-MMC Statutes which contradict this special act shall be made null and void.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SB 1806</th>
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<tr>
<td>FIU-MMC STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL</td>
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<td>DATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMENDMENTS:</td>
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<td>VOTE OUTCOME</td>
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<td>Maria Delgado, Speaker of the Senate</td>
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<td>Samuel Santos, Author</td>
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<td>PRESIDENTIAL RULING</td>
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<td>Krista Schmidt, President</td>
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Kevin Markowski