



COUNCIL BILL

Agenda Item: SB1807 - A BILL TO AMEND STATUES OF THE SENATE

Date: Monday, April 16th, 2018

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

Sponsors: Senator Francesca Ricco-Ackerman; College of Engineering and Computing, Senator Maria Ribeiro; Lower División, Senator Peter Hernandez; College of Nursing and Health Sciences

A BILL TO AMEND STATUES OF THE SENATE

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



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Section III: Bill

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED Article III, Section 3.05.D of the SGC-MMC Statutes be amended as follows:

Section 3.05 Senate Procedures

- (a) The Senate Rules of Procedures shall detail internal Senate procedures.
- (b) Legislation
 - (i) Any bills, resolutions, appropriations and amendments presented to the Senate for the purpose of a vote must first have two (2) Senators as sponsors in order to be brought before the Senate as new business.
 - (ii) All legislation must be submitted to the Rules, Legislation, and Judiciary Committee by 5: 00 PM the Thursday prior to the Senate meeting during which the legislation will be considered.
 - (1) Legislation not submitted to the Rules Committee may still be considered with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.
 - (iii) Each bill, resolution and appropriation shall be required to have two readings which shall take place at two (2) different meetings, at which there is quorum, to be eligible for a vote by the Senate.
 - (1) The Senate may vote to override the second reading with a simple majority vote to proceed with legislation during the same meeting.
 - (iv) After passing a vote in the Senate, the bill, resolution or appropriation shall be sent to the Clerk of Council no later than the following Tuesday by 5:00PM.



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(v) Any such issue to be voted on must be classified as an appropriation, resolution, or bill, and drafted on the appropriate forms to allow for proper archival record.

(c) Meetings

(i) The Senate meetings shall be designated in accordance with the following specifications:

(1) For the purpose of regular meetings, the Senate shall meet on Mondays at 4:00 PM in the SGC-MMC Chambers (GC 150) every Fall and Spring semester. Each Senator shall work their schedules around this time. Meetings shall last a maximum of two (2) hours.

a) During the Summer semester, the Senate shall meet every other Monday at 4:00 PM in the SGC-MMC Chambers (GC 150).

(2) For the purpose of special or emergency meetings, the Senate shall meet at the designated time, place, date and duration as indicated in the Special Meeting notification as called by the Speaker or two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate with at least forty-eight (48) hour notice.

(3) For the purpose of scheduling Committee meetings, the Official academic school and work schedules of each Senator will be taken into consideration. These schedules must be submitted to the respective Committee chairperson no later than two (2) weeks after the beginning of the semester, in order to allow for adequate planning time.

(ii) The Senate shall assemble at least bi-weekly during active legislative sessions of the SGC-MMC.

(iii) All SGC-MMC meetings shall be run in accordance with the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

(1) The Senate shall adopt a special rule which would not limit the number of times that Senators can speak during a particular debate.



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(iv) Any student or group wishing to voice their opinion, or present a project or issue before the Senate, must make arrangements with the Speaker by the preceding Thursday by 5:00PM. These presentations must not exceed ten minutes (10) unless otherwise stated by the Speaker and approved by a simple majority of the Senate.

(v) The Speaker shall allow for a period no longer than twenty (20) minutes to be used for announcements at the end of any Senate meeting.

(d) Requirements

(i) Senators shall be required to attend all Senate and Committee meetings. Housing Senators shall be required to attend Residence Hall Association meetings at least once per month, four (4) times per Fall and per Spring semester.

(1) Senators shall not be allowed to have more than two (2) excused absences from Senate meetings per Fall and per Spring semester.

(2) Senators shall not be allowed to have more than two (2) excused absences from Committee meetings per Fall and per Spring semester.

(3) Housing Senators shall not be allowed to have more than two (2) excused absences from Residence Hall Association meetings per Fall and per Spring semester.

(4) For an absence to be considered excused, any documentation excusing the Senator from a meeting must be provided to the Clerk of Council, Speaker and, when applicable, Committee Chairperson and RHA President, at least one (1) hour before the meeting.

(5) During the Summer semester, Senators shall be allowed to miss meetings, as long as they are excused for every meeting missed.

(6) College of Medicine, College of Law, and Graduate School Senators shall be exempt from Senate meeting attendance requirements, insofar as they provide an excuse for each meeting to be missed related to their academic schedules.



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- a) The Speaker of the Senate shall determine whether the excuse provided qualifies for this exemption.
- (7) To be counted as present, Senators must be present for the majority of a meeting.
- (ii) Senators shall be individually required to meet with their college or division Dean or administration, at least on a bi-monthly basis, and at least two (2) times per Fall and Spring semester.
- (1) Delegations may schedule meetings together, but every Senator must fulfill this requirement.
- (iii) Senators shall be individually required to submit two (2) reports per Fall and Spring semester. The first report shall be submitted no later than ten (10) weeks after the beginning of every semester. The second report shall be submitted no later than the last week of every semester.
- (1) These reports shall include updates on meetings with college/division administration, a listing of all submitted legislation, current and planned projects, current and planned events, as well as a discretionary budget expenditure summary.
- ~~(iv) Senators shall be individually required to administer surveys each Fall semester, in which they must receive at least one-hundred (100) responses, every semester, exclusively from students within their college/division.~~
- ~~(1) These surveys shall collect the students' names and majors.~~
- ~~(2) For colleges whose membership is less than one-hundred (100) students, the number of responses must equal at least fifty percent (50%) of the college's total population.~~
- (iv) Senators shall be required to host one event per semester for their school/college/division with their respective delegation.



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(v) ~~Senators who do not attend a Senate meeting are required to write a report and submit it by the end of the day that the Senate meeting was held. These reports must include updates on goals accomplished, goals set, ongoing projects and discretionary budget expenses.~~

(1) ~~Written reports must be sent electronically to the Speaker and the Clerk of Council to be included in the minutes.~~

(vi) All Senators, excluding graduate students, shall be required to attend and provide proof of attending at least five (5) or 25% of all Student Government Association sponsored events during each semester of their term, which is lesser.

(1) Senators must provide proof of attendance to each event, preferably in the form of a picture or video, which may then be used to promote student government activities.

(2) Senators must submit all proof of attendance to the Internal Affairs Committee Chair three (3) weeks before the end of each semester.

(vii) All Senators shall be required to hold and maintain at least three (3) office hours a week in which they are accessible to their constituents within the Student Body.

(1) Senators shall inform the Senate leadership and Student Government Association Advisor of the day(s), time(s), and location(s), hours will be held so that they may be posted publicly.

(2) Senators shall inform the Internal Affairs Committee Chair of any cancelled office hours within one (1) business day of the hours to be cancelled.

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

(1) Upon the first unexcused absence, the senator shall be notified by the Internal Affairs Committee or Committee Chair.

(2) The notification shall inform the Senator that they are at risk of being reviewed for impeachment, upon the second unexcused absence the



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Senator shall have their voting rights and floor privileges suspended and placed on priority review for impeachment.

- (3) The Senator may have the choices of resignation or to defend their case before the Senate during the impeachment trial.
- (4) 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 Affairs chair by the end of that day (11:59 P.M.) will have their attendance for that meeting marked as an unexcused absence.
- (5) 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.
- (6) 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.
 - (i) Documented proof will include a written statement from the Professor, Dean and Academic Advisor.
 - (ii) 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.
- (7) 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 of duties of the Internal Affairs Committee.
- (ix) Senators shall not be allowed more than two (2) unexcused absences from Senate Committee meetings per Fall and per Spring Semester (Summer semester excluded).
- (1) Upon the first unexcused absence, the senator shall be notified by the Internal Affairs Committee or Committee Chair.



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- (2) 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.
- (3) The Senator may have the choices of resignation or to defend their case before the Senate during the impeachment trial.
- (4) Senators that come in to a Committee meeting more than fifteen (15) minutes without providing prior notification or documented proof for being tardy to the Committee Chair and Internal Affairs chair by the end of that day (11:59 P.M.) will have their attendance for that meeting marked as an unexcused absence.
- (5) If a Senator leaves a Committee meeting early without permission from the Chair will be will have their attendance marked unexcused.
- (e) Senate Emoluments
 - (i) All Senators shall be entitled to compensation in adherence to the provisions put forth by the FIU SGA Constitution, Article XV.
 - (ii) The emoluments for officers of the Senate shall be as follows:
 - (1) Speaker of the Senate
 - a) SGC-MMC Speaker of the Senate shall receive annually an amount up to thirty-two percent (32%), but no less than twenty-five (25%) of the SGC-MMC President's salary.
 - (2) Speaker Pro-Tempore
 - a) SGC-MMC Speaker Pro-Tempore shall receive annually an amount up to twenty-five percent (25%), but no less than ten percent (10%) of the SGC-MMC President's salary.
- (3) Committee Chairs



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a) SGC-MMC Chairs of Senate Standing Committees shall receive annually an amount up to twenty percent (20%), but no less than eight percent (8%) of the SGC-MMC President's salary.

(4) Senators

a) SGC Senators, excluding the Speaker, Speaker Pro-Tempore and Committee Chairs, shall receive annually an amount up to fifteen percent (15%), but no less than seven percent (7%) of the SGC-MMC President's salary.

(iii) International Students under particular working conditions shall be exempt from this clause on a case-by-case basis.

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

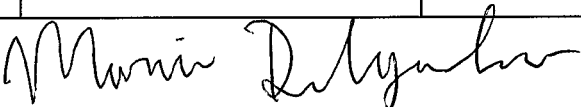
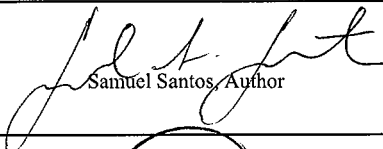

This Bill and all its contents shall be the official law of the SGC-MMC upon passage by the SGC-MMC Senate and approval of the FIU-MMC Student Body President;

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 the 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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SB 1807		
FIU-MMC STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL		
DATE _____	IN FAVOR OF _____	AGAINST _____
AMENDMENTS:		
VOTE OUTCOME	PASS	FAIL
 Maria Delgado, Speaker of the Senate		
 Samuel Santos, Author		
PRESIDENTIAL RULING	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ENACT	<input type="radio"/> VETO
 Krista Schmidt, President		

RLJC  Kevin Markowski