



Senate Resolution 2223-096

Resolution to Amend the General Bylaws Concerning the Relationship Between the Speaker of the Senate and Resolutions

WEDNESDAY, March 15, 2023

Whereas one of the key duties of the Speaker of the Senate is the handling of Resolutions and the setting of Student Senate meeting agendas, and

Whereas there are currently minimal regulations as to when, for a particular meeting of the Senate, Resolutions and meetings agendas must be posted, and

Whereas Senators and members of the Student Body deserve adequate time to review documentation before a meeting of the Student Senate, and

Whereas the Speaker of the Senate signs Resolutions passed or failed by the Student Senate in order to verify the vote count of said resolutions, and

Whereas this signature is only a verification of vote count, and does not denote approval or support of a particular Resolution or outcome of a vote, and

Whereas this fact is now stated on Senate Resolution templates but is not codified in the Student Government Association governing documents, and

Whereas the Speaker of the Senate is second in the presidential line of succession, and

Whereas it has been seen historically that the incumbent of the office of Speaker of the Senate commonly runs for the presidency if eligible, and

Whereas this has resulted in the past of a newly sworn in President having the ability to sign or veto Resolutions passed by a Student Senate over which they themselves presided in the capacity of Speaker, and

Whereas this could be seen as a conflict of interest and circular process, let it be

Resolved that the Student Senate approves the attached amendment to the Student Government Association General Bylaws (Appendix A).

Resolution 2223-096: Resolution to Amend the General Bylaws Concerning the Relationship Between the Speaker of the Senate and Resolutions

Primary Sponsor:

Maggie Spence, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Secondary Sponsor:

Nick Durst, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Vote:

In Favor: 18

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Resolution PASSES

Signatures:



Reagan Markland, Speaker of the Senate

Note: The signature of the Speaker serves only as verification of vote count and does not indicate support of a resolution



Cade Chezem, Student Body President



APPENDIX A

Proposed amendments to the Student Government Association General Bylaws

Document to be Amended:

Student Government Association General Bylaws

Article/Section (if available):

Article VI Sections 3 (new)

Current Text:

N/A

Proposed Text:

Section 3: Resolutions

The Speaker of the Senate shall be tasked with the creation of an agenda for each Senate meeting. Agendas shall be made available to the Student Body and members of the Student Government Association 24 hours before the meeting through the use of official platforms, the Student Government Association website, and any other means deemed necessary by the Speaker of the Senate. Senate Resolutions appearing on said agenda must be posted publicly via comparable channels 24 hours before the meeting.

Following debate and votes on Senate resolutions, the Speaker of the Senate shall sign the resolution as verification of the vote count. The signature of the Speaker does not denote support or endorsement of a resolution or result of a vote, simply affirmation that the recorded count of votes is accurate. Should the Speaker of the Senate, through winning an election or in following the line of presidential succession, be sworn in as Student Body President, then they may not sign or veto any resolutions approved by the Senate over which they presided.

