



**71st Student Senate
Judiciary Committee**

Date

10/29/19

Call to Order: 7:05p.m.

Members Present: Chair Jacobsen, Vice Chair Leckie, Senators England, Gerdts, Latham, Fehringer, Weber, Slimak

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Mcaullife

Guests: *Chair Harris, Harmon

Announcements:

- Chair - Had a fun time doing this, learned a lot about leadership, thank you all for giving me this experience
- Vice Chair -
- Members - Gerdts: apportionment met with a real committee, not meeting this week, waiting until next week, thank you all, love working with all of you. Weber: ending first time in a judiciary committee when was first involved in judicial branch. England: having event at den following conclusion of 71st student senate to reflect on the senate.
- Guests - Harmon: PAC is having last meeting of 71st student senate next monday, last meeting of 71st student senate, will bring food. Alvarez: in my two years as a senator, as a member of the internal affairs committee, and candidate for judiciary chair, i enjoyed watching Chair Ryter's committee meetings, as they were bad, this committee is doing good fostering debate and amendments, Judiciary has always been my number two, enjoyed watching how all the members have grown

Weber moves to unlock calendar

Committee Business:

- Bil 97- Levin - Change to Chapter 206
- Bill 101- Harris and Cohen- Since PAC and RTAC budgets are allocated per fiscal year, this amendment will ensure that money remains for students throughout the fiscal year. This bill will set a maximum spending cap of 50% of the originally allocated PAC and RTAC budgets
- Bill 104- Leckie - To help facilitate the staffing of the Office of General Council
- Bill 107- Alvarez - Expanding upon Chapter 700 with regards to relevant organizations
- Bill 108- Lavender - In regards to the Legislative Agenda and the official policy preferences endorsed by the student body-all members of SGA must prevent their personal opinions as being representative of the opinions of SGA as a whole.

Old Business:

- Bil 97- Levin - Change to Chapter 206
 - Introduction: Levin: Thanks for having me back, this bill clarifies the anti discriminatory policy, ensuring no SGA officers are held liable for missing for religious holiday, maintaining our clarity with FL statutes. Yields: 2:21
 - Round Table:
 - **England: moves to add senator Harris to sponsor bill 97**
 - **Found Friendly**
 - Weber: with respect to your backgrounds, i understand that FL statutes make an exception for antisemitism, why only this?
 - Levin: this reflects FL statutes, i am open to amending it though, don't want to open the can of worms for moving meetings and adding more
 - Weber: I feel like if we put anti semitism we might favor one specific religion over others
 - **Gerds: moves to amend 206.1 to say "and any other forms of religious discrimination"**
 - **Found Friendly**
 - Gerds: not interested in getting into scheduling of meetings, how does the second line of the bill actually get implemented?
 - Levin: this would have to have follow up bills, major legislation is related to the budget or the legislative agenda
 - Weber: leaving in word major is important, moved this past election because of this
 - Alvarez: there are lines in statutes about religious holidays
 - England: i would be happy to amend adding definition of major, we could add a section defining major legislation
 - Harris: follow up legislation is the way to handle it
 - Harris: not good to not be in senate during controversy, leaving it to the senate president is good
 - Alvarez: "discretion of senate president or petition by student body"
 - Gerds: i do like the idea and the intent behind this, the second line worries me, lots of uncertainty, law should not be uncertain or vague, would apportionment legislation count? Consent resolutions would never be considered major, i do think if we make an amendment, then we should discuss that a lot before we do that
 - Weber: i do like Alvarez's idea, leaving the discretion to the senate president, ash wednesday will fall on date of senate, people' won't abuse this
 - Alvarez: using "sincerely held religious beliefs" can avoid confusion
 - Gerds: I feel that what we're doing is we're looking over a line and trying to make it work but none of us are sponsors so we're doing work that the sponsors should have done, I want this bill to be passed but that line should be stricken, especially because thinking about a petition, defining the terms of the petition, i don't think we should engage ourselves in writing statues that we know will be changed, not a good place to put vagueness, thats a whole process
 - Levin: friendly to taking part of major legislation, adding what Jake said, allowing a petition to go to the senate president and approval by the senate president
 - Harris: committee's can table legislation and they can be proactive as well

- Gerdts: I like all of this, my problem is that this would take a large amendment with a lot of time to fix this, i think it would be good to get the opinion of the senate president, procedures around the submission of petitions
- England: the mechanics of this is complicated, this is just the anti discrimination policy, scheduling bills should be in a seperate bill, let's remove the line with the understading that we would address it in another bill, I want to see this passed, taking out the second line would be best for now
- Weber: a solution would be to look at the second line, word "proactive", and to add more discretion about scheduling to the presiding officer
- Harris: its easy for committee member to go to the chair
- Alvarez: chapter 200 is concerning the entierty of the student body and not just the senate, and to place a rule concerning the senate and should be in rules and procedures, some members brought up removing the second line, this makes the bill more applicable to the statue
- Gerdts: I agree with senator Avlarez, i think its a bad place for it to be, its anti discrimination policy in a chapter about student government affairs, throwing a specific indication fails to comply with the larger stattue, i would perfer for this to be in a different place, this is senate focused, i agree with the intent of the bill, not a right scope, intent is good, unfortunately intent is not enough, this has to be fixed, i want this to pass
- **Weber: moves to amend: to add "at the discretion of the presiding officer"**

- **Found Friendly**

- Closing: Levin and Harris: thank you, this was a lot, this is a good bill with good intent, can solve a lot of issues, this won't be abused, giving presiding officer discretion. Yields: 1:38
- Voting
- England: Yes
- Gerdts: Yes
- Latham: Abs (not here)
- Leckie: Yes
- Fehringner: Yes
- Slimak: Yes
- Weber: Yes
- **Bill passes 5-0-1**
- Bill 101- Harris and Cohen- Since PAC and RTAC budgets are allocated per fiscal year, this amendment will ensure that money remains for students throughout the fiscal year. This bill will set a maximum spending cap of 50% of the originally allocated PAC and RTAC budgets
 - Introduction: Harris: I asked Dr. Acosta what to do about the finance code bill currently going through the signing process, it turns out that the President has signed it, but the bill may not have been signed by Dr. Hect, but this won't effect finance code immediately, Dr. Acosta said we can make the same changes approved or delete it entirely. Yields: 1:35
 - **Bill placed on the table**
 - **Bill picked up from the table**
 - Round Table
 - Harris: As long as the section and all details are included the bill is okay

- Weber: we don't really govern OSFL so why do we need to create rules that violate their free speech
 - Alvarez: There is already restrictions for polling places on greek houses and OSFL properties, we already have these restrictions so this is legitimate
- Latham: I have issues with this bill, president of a sorority, I don't disagree that A/S funded RSO's need regulation, quid pro quo could be a problem, OSFL orgs are not A/S funded, this is a blatant breach of freedom of speech, i can't go home and talk about campaigning, these are not on campus, this is very unconstitutional.
- Vice Chair Villacorta: I've seen every iteration of this bill, the challenge of addressing the influence of OSFL on SGA elections is large, writing a bill like this does bring up several questions, Dr. Acosta said that the university looked over it and did not find first amendment concerns, there are already rules in place revolving around elections, the elimination of possibilities for quid pro quo is important.
- Gerdts: I will be honest, and I will not support this bill, we don't have enough time to address all issues, in the Spring Election, when OSFL mobilizes, banning of campaigning inside a house will never be effectual, the real effect would be banning banners, in the spring elections there is a 250% higher turnout, this could effect turnout, we have very low turnout, and it just so happens that fraternities and sororities are active on campus, blaming them is not the problem, they represent a huge portion of the only active students on campus, we should increase turnout in other areas, some parts of this are important, this bill is somewhat far reaching and has too little time for us to properly debate and amend, uncomfortable limiting the freedom of speech, sororities and fraternities are different from the home i live in, Frats and sororities tend to be the places parties find space to produce banners, they produce voter turnout and outreach, not comfortable limiting freedom of speech, penalizing fraternity and sorority life, making it harder for parties to operate on this campus.
- Weber: my concern is if we clear the freedom of speech issues, now discouraging people from running or joining SGA, this discourages people from getting involved in SGA, cannot support bill shrink senate
- England: as a current pledge of two fraternities, I got a lot of engagement in the past election, getting students involved is important, people voted because I asked them too, influence is good as it increases participation, against the bill so we can involve more students
- Slimak: knowing that most panhellenic and IFC groups have houses where people live, so how will this influence their involvement?
 - Alvarez: it would work like residence halls and dining halls, several thousand students live in the residence halls, should the bill pass, the people who are in the orgs listed would be effected just as people on campus, innocent until proven guilty, election commission affirms this
- Slimak: so then if there can be no evidence to prove these things, why are we doing this if nothing can be proven?
 - Alvarez: goes back go governance, just because something is hard to prove does not mean it shouldn't be put into law, this is still needed

- Fehringer: i agree with the original sentiment, the only thing is if this does get passed and put into effect, prohibiting campaigning will only leave to people finding less transparent ways to campaign, don't want students to have to run secret campaigns, end on this bill would encourage things happening non transparently
 - Voting
 - England: No
 - Gerdts: No
 - Latham: No
 - Leckie: Abs
 - Fehringer: Abs
 - Slimak: No
 - Weber: No
 - **Bill fails 0-5-2**
- Bill 108- Lavender - In regards to the Legislative Agenda and the official policy preferences endorsed by the student body-all members of SGA must prevent their personal opinions as being representative of the opinions of SGA as a whole.
 - Introduction: Lavender: Thank you for your time, came to withdraw the bill, rather not amend the chapter on the floor, want to hear more comments, waiting to resubmit it to 72nd. Yields 2:32. **Bill is withdrawn**

New Business: None

Unfinished Business:

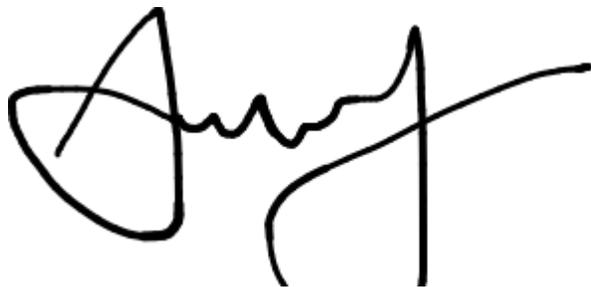
Final Announcements:

Chair: Jacobsen: would love to hear candidates for chair, grateful for work done in committee
 Gerdts: like to say no matter how hot the room gets, i never fell out of love in this committee, and i am very thankful for what we have done, appreciation for all departing members
 England: has been a pleasure working with you all, look forward to working with new members
 Harris: i've been an honorary member, not used to this work, enjoy this a lot
 Harmon: come to PAC next week, give support PAC is at 6 in 125

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 8:28

Next meeting will be in the 72nd senate

Adjourned:


 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. England', written in a cursive style.

Signature of Chair