



**72<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date: March 2nd, 2020**

**Call to Order:** 8:15 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Leckie, Senator(s) Weber, Sojos, Ready, Ascanio, Parker, Absten, Recht

**Members Tardy:** Senator(s)

**Members Excused Absent:** Senator(s) Slimak

**Members Absent:** Senator(s) Gerdts, Silvia

**Guests:** Sen. Haslett, Chair Gnanam, Mr. Driscoll, Sen. Maymom, Parli. Alvarez, Sen. Chabot, Sen. Elect Gonzalez

**Announcements:**

- Chair - We have some controversial things, so please be respectful of each other. Please keep safe with the coronavirus.
- Vice Chair - None
- Members - None
- Guests
  - Gnanam: PAC Liaison
  - Alvarez: If you are interested in learning about your rights as a senator, come talk to me.

**Committee Business:**

- **Bill 26** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - to amend Student Body Statutes Chapter 504 in regards to qualifications for the Student Defender position. This bill will allow any student enrolled at Florida State who has completed at least 60 credit hours to be eligible for the position, given approval and forwarding by the appropriate parties.
- **Bill 31** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to define major legislation. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
- **Bill 35** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to outline legislative procedure related to holy days. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
- **Bill 41** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To eliminate the Statutory requirement for a "Senate Newsletter"
- **Bill 42** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To eliminate the 10 minute time limit for student comments
- **Bill 43** - Sponsored by Senator Parker - To establish that no elected or appointed official receiving OPS wages may hold a position on the executive board of a student political party
- **Bill 48** - Sponsored by Senator Haslett - To remove the name of God and the implication of religious authority from the default Oath of Office

- **Bill 49** - Sponsored by Senator Haslett - To clean up unnecessary redundancies in the Student Body Statutes' Code of Ethics
- **Bill 51** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - To remove the statutory requirement for Greek Life leaders to attend the state of the student body address
- **Senate Judiciary Committee Fall 2019 - Spring 2020 Quality Survey**

#### Old Business:

- **Bill 26** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - to amend Student Body Statutes Chapter 504 in regards to qualifications for the Student Defender position. This bill will allow any student enrolled at Florida State who has completed at least 60 credit hours to be eligible for the position, given approval and forwarding by the appropriate parties.
  - **Tabled**
- **Bill 31** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to define major legislation. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
  - **Tabled**
- **Bill 35** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to outline legislative procedure related to holy days. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
  - **Tabled**

#### New Business:

- **Bill 41** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To eliminate the Statutory requirement for a "Senate Newsletter"
  - Opening Statement
    - Leckie: All this bill does is remove the requirement to produce the senate newsletter, which we do not do. Instead of this being a requirement, the bill makes it optional
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - N/A
  - Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Ascanio seconds
  - Round Table
    - Sojos: when was the last time there was a senate newsletter
      - Leckie: In my last two years, I have not seen one exist
    - Recht: Why not make this a requirement of the Senate Press Secretary
      - Leckie: It is complete up to the discretion of the president which makes it flexible
    - Parker: I think this is great because it makes it optional and it gives it more flexibility.
  - Senator Sojos moves to call the question
  - Senator Recht seconds
  - Vote
    - Griffin Leckie: Yes
    - Fabian Sojos Yes
    - Juan Ascanio: Yes
    - Kelvin Ready: Yes
    - Jean Paul Recht: Yes
    - Zane Absten: Yes
    - Alyssa Parker" Yes
    - **Result: PASS**

- **Bill 42** - Sponsored by Senator Leckie - To eliminate the 10 minute time limit for student comments
  - Opening Statement
    - Leckie: So right now statutes say that the senate gives ten minutes to student comments and then the senate votes to give them more. It's not just each organization that is given 10 minutes, but it is the entirety of the students comments section that is ten minutes. There was a concern of students potentially filibustering, but technically the senate president is the presiding officer and can take away the RSO's speaking rights.
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - Recht: Can the senate president actually do that
      - Motion for a non senator to speak (motion by sojos, and Ascanio)
      - Alvarez: The parliamentarian now has this right under the new bill
      - Leckie: The interpretation of the statutes allows for this.
  - Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Asconio seconds
  - Round Table
    - Recht: I think this is really good idea because we should be listening to the student comments
  - Senator Sojos moves to call the question
  - Senator Asconio seconds
  - Vote
    - Griffin Leckie: Yes
    - Fabian Sojos Yes
    - Juan Ascanio: Yes
    - Kelvin Ready: Yes
    - Jean Paul Recht: Yes
    - Zane Absten: Yes
    - Alyssa Parker" Yes
  - **Bill RESULT: Pass**
  
- **Bill 43** - Sponsored by Senator Parker - To establish that no elected or appointed official receiving OPS wages may hold a position on the executive board of a student political party
  - **Withdrawn**
  
- **Bill 48** - Sponsored by Senator Haslett - To remove the name of God and the implication of religious authority from the default Oath of Office
  - Opening Statement
    - Haslett: The purpose of this bill is to change the default of how the oath of office is said. At the moment the last phrase that is said is "So help me god, and the pro tempore provide s the option for you to say "on the pain of impeachment". This bill switches them. First of all I heavily believe in the idea of the church of state, and I think that as it exists now it is not a separation of church and state. I think it also holds that to a standard of what you are being held accountable to, by impeachment and not god. I also think there is a pressure to reveal your religious beliefs when you choose to switch.
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - Weber: Did any constituents come to you about this
      - No

- Senator Recht moves to enter Round Table Discussion
- Senator Sojos seconds
- Round Table
  - X: Motion for a non senator to speak ( motioned by sojos, seconded by parker
  - Driscoll: I think that this is for 14% of the college population who does believe in god, and this is designed to emulate the florida government's oath of office.
  - Recht: That the separation of church and state is in regards to specific denomination, and that atheism is in itself a reflection of its own church.
  - Sojos: So as a christian, I am way more scared by god than impeachment so I will be voting no.
  - Adamyk: I applaud the efforts of this bill. The separation of church and state does not prohibit the mentioning of god in public spaces and god. The separation of church and state is not absolute according to the court case from 1957. The first amendment guarantees freedom of religion. The first amendment does not prohibit government officials from mentioning god.
  - Ready: Freedom of religion is the standard, not freedom of religion. I am a traditionalist, I echo on the side of tradition and I see no reason to dilenaitte from it. Given the legislature and government bodies do it, I don't see the need for that.
  - Weber: I have an issue with making optional, since that SGA is under the idea that it should emulate the actual government. I think we should go with what our governing bodies have done, and it's not an issue I think we should be voting on given the governing bodies have already dealt.
  - Maymon: I think this a statement of faith because god is not telling us to bills and write legislation. I think this isn't a separation of church and state issue because I think this is different because the option is based on pain of impeachment. I think the inclusivity of it is at question cause I think ostracize more religious students.
  - Chabot: There have been supreme court cases that have declared that "So help me god" is unconstitutional. Students have reached out to me seeing that felt pressured to say "So help me god".
  - Sojos: There is pressure both ways.
- Senator Absten moves to call the question
- Senator Weber seconds
- Closing
  - The difference of on pain impeachment, at any point you are not saying you are not disclosing personal opinions. A lot of these opinions came from people who believe in god.
- Vote
  - Josh Weber: No
  - Fabian Sojos: No
  - Juan Ascanio: No
  - Kelvin Ready: No
  - Jean Paul Recht: Yes
  - Zane Absten: No
  - Alyssa Parker" Yes
- **Bill RESULT FAIL**

- **Bill 49** - Sponsored by Senator Haslett - To clean up unnecessary redundancies in the Student Body Statutes' Code of Ethics
  - Opening Statement
    - Haslett: This one I would hope has a little less debate. This is just clearing up some redundancies within the code of ethics, this simply condenses it under one subsection.
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - None
  - Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Recht seconds
  - Round Table
    - Recht: So where was the redundancies?
      - What would become 205.6 and and what was 205.4, and they said the same things and so I just condensed it into one section
    - Weber: Are there any substantive changes
    - Weber: I would like to speak in pro of this I thin making statutes simpler is always great
  - Senator Recht moves to call the question
  - Senator Ready seconds
  - Vote
    - Josh Weber: Yes
    - Fabian Sojos Yes
    - Juan Ascanio: Yes
    - Kelvin Ready: Yes
    - Jean Paul Recht: Yes
    - Zane Absten: Yes
    - Alyssa Parker" Yes
  - **Bill RESULT: Pass**
- **Bill 51** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - To remove the statutory requirement for Greek Life leaders to attend the state of the student body address
  - Opening Statement
    - Adamyk: I am removing the requirement of Greek Life leaders to attend the student body address. I noticed that they issued an advisory opinion called "Frats and Srats", they had an issue with this being the only time that greek life is mentioned in the statutes. We cannot statutorial require them to attend, given that they are not part of SGA.
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - None
  - Senator Ready moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Round Table
    - Ready: I would like to commend the sponsor because the statement is very entertaining.
    - Weber: Read out the statement of Chief Justice Keller
    - Parker: Point of Information, did we already make a motion for a non senator
    - Driscoll: Would you be open to removing the redundancy, removing the pro tempore and senate president from the list since they are senators.
    - Weber: Do we not think our elected officers should be mentioned twice
    - Chabot: Does the student body treasurer have to go, because he isn't listed

- Sojos: Why do you not wanna put the treasurer in there
- Haslett: I had to guess that the student body treasurer has other roles to play in the student body address
- Sojos: According to parliamentarian, it's because he is the designated survivor
- Recht: If the chief of staff has to go, then the treasurer should have to go
- Recht: I move to replace president and pro tempore with the student body treasurer, found unfriendly and withdrawn
- Ready: Is this enforceable?
- Weber: I move to add that there is a designated survivor
- Chair chooses to not recognize this motion, point of order to overturn the decision of the Chair
  - Josh Weber: Yes
  - Fabian Sojos Yes
  - Juan Ascanio: No
  - Kelvin Ready: No
  - Jean Paul Recht: No
  - Zane Absten: No
  - Alyssa Parker: No
  - **Motion RESULT: FAILS**
- Senator Absten moves to call the question
- Senator Weber seconds
- Closing
  - Adamyk: Thank you for that debate and that brief conversation about a designated survivor.
- Vote
  - Josh Weber: Yes
  - Fabian Sojos Yes
  - Juan Ascanio: Yes
  - Kelvin Ready: Yes
  - Jean Paul Recht: Yes
  - Zane Absten: Yes
  - Alyssa Parker" Yes
- **Bill RESULT: Pass**

**Unfinished Business:**

**For committee members only:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe28UbTdMKWwuVwciFnGB0AWqA4-llbqcNwUoHoAUJh1K96og/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe28UbTdMKWwuVwciFnGB0AWqA4-llbqcNwUoHoAUJh1K96og/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Committee Legislative Round Table:**

- Chabot: I have my legislative aid stuff that I am working on, I will be putting this in rules and procedures because Acosta told me to.
- Leckie: Give her feedback if you have
- Gnanam: Plastic water bottles are bad for the environment and its a statement on behalf of the student government.
- Sojos: Do people purchase plastic Water regularly with A&S money?

- Its an consistency issue because it is dependent on who is serving on these eboards if this

**Final Announcements:** None

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** TBD

**Adjourned:** 9:19 p.m.

*Griffin Leckie*

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Signature of Chair