

Senate Resolution

71st Student Senate

Senate Resolution #: 77

Sponsored by: Alvarez, England

Date: October 8, 2019

WHEREAS: Article II, Section 5, Clause A.1. of the Constitution of the Student Body States, "(Senate shall) Enact its own Rules of Procedure, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote", and

WHEREAS: Debate over legislation is a priority of the Senate, and

WHEREAS: Equal time should be given to all participants in debate over matters within the Senate, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEVENTY-FIRST STUDENT SENATE THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT: Senate Rules of Procedure be amended as follows:

RULE ELEVEN - Debate and Voting

- 11.6 When a measure or motion comes before the Senate for consideration, the structure of debate shall be as follows:
 - **a.** Opening statement by the sponsor(s) of no more than five (5) minutes. No motions may be made during this round.
 - **b.** Technical, non-debatable questions, which shall consist of factual inquiries directed toward the sponsor(s). The amount of questions asked shall be at the discretion of the presiding officer. No motions or points of information shall be made during this time.
 - **c.** Three (3) rRounds of pro debate and three (3) rounds of con debate, in alternation. Each round shall be no more than three minutes long.
 - **d.** Closing statement by the original sponsor. The length of this statement shall be whatever remaining time the sponsor yielded after his or her opening. No motions may be made during this round.
 - e. Vote
- **11.7** No Senator shall speak more than once during any one round of debate. No Senator shall speak in debate more than twice across all rounds of debate, unless recognized by the Presiding Officer at his/her their discretion.
 - **a.** No senator shall debate in both pro and con of any motion or measure, unless v the motion or measure was substantively amended on the floor.

- **b.** These speaking limitations shall not be applied to motions or points.
- **11.8** Points and motions do not count against time during any timed round. The remaining time on any side of debate shall be returned to that side of debate upon completion of any motion or matter that arises, including amendments deemed unfriendly.
- **11.9** Any Senator may yield his/her their remaining time to any other Senator except on closing debate. By simply sitting down after speaking, the Senate waives the remaining debate time. If no Senator wishes to speak when called on by the presiding officer, the current round is extinguished.
 - **a.** The presiding officer shall have the authority to replenish the remaining time in a round of debate if it is waived before time expires.
 - **b.** If it is determined that a Senator purposefully waived the remaining debate time in order to stifle opposition and debate, he or she may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with these rules and applicable statutes.
- **11.10** A motion to call the question shall not be made or entertained until the second expiration of time for a round of pro con debate.
 - <u>a.</u> Such motions may also be made if there are no speakers recognized by the presiding officer in that round of con debate
- **11.11** The Senate President, or other presiding officer, may reduce or extend debate time limits for speakers and/or limit debate on the entire question, whenever necessary. Any senator may move to extend or limit debate, subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
- **11.12** Any decision by the presiding officer to limit or extend any portion of debate or technical non-debatable questions may be overturned by a majority vote.
- **11.131** The presiding officer shall declare all votes. If not prescribed in statutes or these rules, the presiding officer shall determine the manner in which the vote is taken, however a Senator may move for a vote by iClicker, hand count, or roll call.
 - **a.** In cases of roll call votes, the Senate Program Assistant shall call the roll of the Senate, in alphabetical order, recording the vote of each Senator.
 - **b.** Before the result of a roll call vote has been announced, the presiding officer shall ask if any Senator wishes to add their vote or change their vote.
- **11.142** In no case shall a Senator cast a vote for another Senator who is absent from the chambers or committee hearing. No person who is not a Senator shall vote. No proxy voting shall be allowed under any circumstances. Violations of this provision shall be punished as the Senate shall deem proper.
- **11.15** When making a point, a Senator shall adhere to the proper procedures outlined in Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition.

- **a.** Points do not relate directly to the substance of the pending motion, but rather the method of transacting the business of the motion. Incidental motions must be dealt with immediately.
- **b.** Types of points used within Senate are listed but not limited to:
 - 1. Point of Personal Privilege
- a. To register a complaint about the environment of the meeting or make a personal request.
 - 2. Point of Information
- a. To request information of the Senate President.
 - 3. Point of Clarification

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: A copy of this resolution be sent to the following:

David Higgins, President of the 71st Student Senate
Jack Denton, President Pro Tempore of the 71st Student Senate
Kelvin Ready, Chair of the Budget Committee
Matthew Harris, Chair of the Finance Committee
Samantha Jacobsen, Chair of the Judiciary Committee
Emily Durham, Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee
Asia Warren, Chair of the Student Life and Academic Affairs Committee
Dr Danielle Morgan Acosta, Director
Ben Young, SGA Webmaster

OFFICIALS:

Student Senate President

Director of Student Governance & Advocacy

SENATE VOTE: 24Y-6N-1A PASSED: 23rd of October, 2019