



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

74th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 59

Primary Sponsor: Diaz

Co-Sponsor(s): Folwell, Hockett, Kariher, Nemeth, Turkomer, Wyatt

Whereas: Technical non-debatable questions are defined in the Senate's Rules of Procedure as "factual inquiries directed toward the sponsor(s)" of pieces of legislation or motions that come before the Senate, and

Whereas: Senators are oftentimes confused as to why questions asked after opening statements must be of a non-debatable, factual nature, and

Whereas: General questions that Senators may have on a measure or motion are usually always asked as Points of Information during pro/con debate, after technical non-debatable questions are exhausted, and

Whereas: Time for pro/con debate should be explicitly reserved for substantive debate, and all questions pertaining to measures or motions should be able to be asked before pro/con debate begins so that all Senators are informed of the merits of measures or motions before making up their minds and sharing opinions in debate, therefore

Be it resolved by the Seventy-fourth Student Senate at Florida State University that: It is the opinion of the Student Senate that technical non-debatable questions are unnecessarily restrictive, and should be replaced by a general round of questions where Senators are able to more freely ask questions they may have on pending legislation or motions, and

Be it further resolved that: Rule 11.6 of the Student Senate Rules of Procedure be amended as follows:

- 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~~
Questions pertaining to the measure or motion, which shall be directed toward the sponsor(s). The presiding officer shall have the discretion to direct questions to individuals other than the sponsor(s), and may determine the number of questions that shall be asked. 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. Rounds of pro debate and 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 their opening. No motions may be made during this round.

Be it further resolved that: The Student Senate shall be reminded that should this resolution pass, the changes made shall only be applicable to regular Senate meetings, and that committees can amend their individual Rules of Procedure if they so choose to also eliminate technical non-debatable questions at their discretion, and

Be it further resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:
Abril Hunter, Student Senate President
Sarah Nemeth, Student Senate President Pro Tempore
Jacalyn Butts, Assistant Director of Student Governance & Advocacy

OFFICIAL: _____

DocuSigned by:

Abril Hunter

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Student Senate President

Senate Vote: PASSES BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

PASSED: October 5th, 2022