



73rd STUDENT SENATE Statute Revision, Addition or Proposed Constitutional Amendment Form

Senate Bill #: 59

Primary Sponsor: Tackett, Randall
Co-Sponsor(s): Nasworthy, Wang, Marcus, Roy
Date: XX

Purpose & Description: Reinstatement and alteration of The Student Government War Department to defend Florida State University's pride before any contentious athletic event and encourage charitable giving among our athletic rivals.

Statute Number(s): Chapter 611

Statute/Amendment Text:

CHAPTER 611 ~~The Student Government War Department~~ Powers Act of 2021

611.1. Purpose

- A. To advocate and support the Florida State University Athletic Department and promote charitable giving among our rivals on behalf of the student body when any team faces a contentious athletic event.

611.2. Definitions

- A. Appropriate Team – the corresponding sport's athletes.
1. If the "Appropriate Team" is an individual athlete, then they shall be referenced by the appropriate school name and/or the appropriate sport.
- B. Athletic Event – an athletic competition involving students at Florida State University
- C. Declaration of War – a resolution passed by the Student Senate to inform a college or university that an athletic program at Florida State University is superior and will win a competition.
- D. Opposing School – the student government at any university or college whose athletes are competing against athletes from Florida State University.
- E. War – A state of friendly opposition between two institutions of higher education.
- F. War Game – a charitable event proposed in a Declaration of War that is used as an athletic friendly wager between the Florida State University Student

Government Association and an opposing university or college's student government.

611.3. War Powers

- A. The Student Senate shall have the sole power to declare war.
- B. To initiate a Declaration of War, any Senator may sponsor a resolution containing:
 - 1. The official SGA seal and date of passage in the Senate.
 - 2. A title that contains the phrase "Declaration of War," the name of the appropriate team, the name of the opposing team, and the date(s) of the event.
 - 3. A "Whereas" clause that reads:
 - a. "WHEREAS, (Opposing School) has threatened the honor and dignity of our student body by falsely assuming their (appropriate team) will defeat Florida State University in battle."
 - 4. A "Let it be resolved that" clause stating:
 - a. "a state of war between the Florida State University Student Government Association and (Opposing School), is formally declared; and that the Student Body President is hereby, authorized and directed to employ agencies, bureaus, the Congress of Graduate Students, and registered student organizations to mobilize the student body in full defense of the Florida State University (appropriate team)."
 - 5. Information related to the war game that is established.
 - 6. This resolution is not limited to these clauses.
 - 7. Language stating that the winner of both the athletic event and war game shall have the right to claim they are the "superior university."
- C. Declarations of War shall:
 - 1. Require a two-thirds (2/3) roll call vote to pass.
 - 2. Be written in a manner that is cordial and respectful.
 - 3. Be submitted for consideration at least 15 days prior to an athletic event and contain the date of the athletic event.
 - a. This provision shall not apply if the athletic event is a postseason or championship event.

4. Be submitted at least once each year for an athletic event against the University of Florida.

D. Declarations of War shall not:

1. Contain the names of individual athletes.
2. Directly state or allude to any threats of violence or harm.
3. Be submitted more than four (4) times in an academic year.
 - a. A post-season or championship athletic event shall not count towards the declaration limit. There is no limit to the amount of declarations in a postseason or championship athletic event

E. Contrary to normal resolutions, Declarations of War shall be signed by both the Student Senate President and the Student Body President.

1. Upon presentation of a Declarations of War, the Student Body President shall have five (5) school days to approve or veto the Declaration.
2. If no action is taken within the five (5) day limit, then the Declaration shall be treated as approved by the Student Body President.
3. If vetoed, the Student Body President must submit written justification to the Student Senate stating the reason for the veto.
4. A veto of a Declaration of War may be overridden by the Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

F. In the unlikely event that Florida State University loses the stated athletic event, the Student Senate shall draft a letter thanking the Opposing School for participating. However, there shall be no mention of defeat.

611.4. Commander in Chief

- A. Once a declaration of war has passed, the Student Body President may be referred to as the Commander in Chief until the appropriate athletic event has ended.
- B. The Student Body President shall publicly read all declarations of war to the student body within 10 business days of its passage.
 1. The Student Body President shall ensure that this message is widely distributed. Widely distributed may include but is not limited to:
 - a. A public event on campus
 - b. A social media post
 - c. An email announcement to the student body

- C. The Student Body President is expected to engage the student body by coordinating with relevant stakeholders regarding involvement in any event associated with the Declaration of War. These stakeholders may include but are not limited to registered student organizations and SGA entities.
- D. The Student Body President is expected to rally the student body towards engagement in supporting FSU athletics, but they are not required to provide any funding or financial support.
- E. The Student Body President may delegate their powers as Commander in Chief to the Student Senate President, Student Body Vice President, Student Body Treasurer, or anyone in the Executive Cabinet.

611.5. War Games

- A. The War Game shall be one of three events:
 - 1. A fundraising event for a university or college department that provides resources to student veterans.
 - 2. A fundraising event for a food pantry that specifically benefits college students.
 - 3. A fundraising event for a university or college department that provides resources to underrepresented students
- B. The opposing school's student government shall be notified in the Declaration of War that they should attempt to compete in the war game for the benefit of their equivalent charitable organization or school department.
 - 1. The sponsor of the Declaration shall choose the beneficiary and coordinate with the opposing school prior to submitting a Declaration of War to ensure that all parties in the war game raise funds for equivalent entities.