

Congress of Graduate Students

Florida State University

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The 27th Congress of Graduate Students

BILL 14

Sponsored by Representative Blake-Hedges (IA Chair)

Edits of the COGS Code, Edit to Chapter 113: Requirements to Maintain Office, Edit to Chapter 114: Removal for Truancy

Purpose: To update the code to require stricter attendance requirements so that all representatives are actively participating and attending most meetings.

Bold indicate additions. **Strikeouts** indicate deletions.

113.1 A seat shall be declared vacant and the Representative removed from membership in the Assembly when one of the following conditions is met within the same Congress, unless a leave of absence is granted:

A) A Representative has accumulated three (3) unexcused absences from COGS Assembly or committee meetings

B) A Representative has accumulated six (6) total absences from COGS Assembly or committee meetings

C) A Representative is recommended by the Executive Committee to the Assembly for removal due to absenteeism, which the Assembly approves by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

113.2 An "unexcused absence" is an absence for which no advance written notice was provided to the COGS Program Associate at least one (1) hour before the start of any COGS Assembly meeting; or an absence for which no advance written notice was

113.1 **A Representative and their seat shall be up for review** when one of the following conditions is met within the same Congress, unless a leave of absence is granted:

A) A Representative has accumulated **two (2)** unexcused absences from COGS Assembly or committee meetings

B) A Representative has accumulated **four (4)** total absences from COGS Assembly or committee meetings

113.2 An "unexcused absence" is an absence for which no advance written notice was provided to the COGS Program Associate at least one (1) hour before the start of any COGS Assembly meeting; or an absence for which no advance written notice was provided to the committee's Chair at least one (1) hour before the start of a committee meeting.

A) Written notice shall be constituted by physical correspondence or email.

provided to the committee's Chair at least one (1) hour before the start of a committee meeting. Any Representative who leaves during an Assembly meeting, without prior notification to the Executive Committee, will have one (1) day to submit their excuse to the Executive Committee before the absence is automatically considered unexcused. If tendered on time, the appeal will go to review by the Executive Committee as per § 113.3 of this code.

A) Written notice shall be constituted by physical correspondence or email.

B) All unexcused absences shall be announced during Assembly roll call.

113.3 All absences can be declared "excused" by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Exceptions to §§ 113.1 and 113.2 of this code can be granted by unanimous recommendation by the Executive Committee, and ratified by majority of the entire membership of the Assembly.

113.4 COGS Representatives, council members, and funding board representatives must become financially certified by his or her second Assembly meeting every fiscal year.

114.1 The Internal Affairs Committee shall have jurisdiction to review absences of COGS members from Assembly meetings and committee meetings. If the Representative is found to be non-compliant with attendance requirements on the basis of a verifiable factual record, the Committee shall suspend the member by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

A) The Committee action shall be submitted via report to the COGS Speaker.

B) The suspended officer may submit an appeal of the suspension to the Assembly within fifteen (15) business days.

C) The rules governing truancy proceedings within the Assembly may be laid down in the COGS Internal Rules of Procedure, but in the absence of such provisions, the Speaker shall

B) All unexcused absences shall be announced during Assembly roll call.

113.3 A Representative who arrives after a meeting has been called to order, is considered to be "late."

A) An "excused late" (or "excused early dismissal") is one for which written notice was provided to the COGS Program Associate no later than one (1) day from the start of said COGS Assembly meeting and shall count as one-half (1/2) of an excused absence.

B) An "unexcused late" (or "unexcused early dismissal") is a late for which no written notice was provided to the COGS Program Associate no later than one (1) day from the start of said COGS Assembly meeting and shall count as one (1) unexcused absence.

113.4 All absences can be declared "excused" by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Exceptions to §§ 113.1, 113.5, and **113.3** of this code can be granted by unanimous recommendation by the Executive Committee and ratified by majority of the entire membership of the Assembly.

113.5 COGS Representatives, council members, and funding board representatives must become financially certified by his or her second Assembly meeting every fiscal year.

114.1 The Internal Affairs Committee shall have jurisdiction to review absences of COGS members from Assembly meetings and committee meetings. If the Representative is found to be non-compliant with attendance requirements on the basis of a verifiable factual record, **a review committee composed of the Internal Affairs Committee members and the Executive Committee members** shall suspend the member by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

A) The suspended officer may submit an appeal of the suspension to the Assembly within fifteen (15) business days.

determine through memorandum what rules shall be followed.

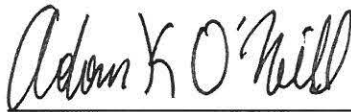
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114.4 An "unexcused late" (or "unexcused early dismissal") is a late for which no written notice was provided to the COGS Program Associate no later than one (1) day from the start of said COGS Assembly meeting and shall count as one (1) unexcused absence.

B) A Representative is recommended by the review committee to the Assembly for removal due to absenteeism, which the Assembly approves by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

C) The rules governing truancy proceedings within the Assembly may be laid down in the COGS Internal Rules of Procedure, but in the absence of such provisions, the Speaker shall determine through memorandum what rules shall be followed.



Adam O'Neill
Speaker



Dr. Danielle Morgan Acosta
Director of Student Affairs



Matthew Uttermark
Deputy Speaker for Finance



Dr. Amy Hecht
Vice President for Student Affairs

April 15th, 2019