



**72<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date: December 2nd, 2019**

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

**Members Present:** Chair Leckie, Vice Chair England, Senator(s) Absten, Ascanio, Silvia, Slimak, Primozic, Weber, Recht

**Members Tardy:** Senator Gerdts

**Members Excused Absent:** Senator Sojos

**Members Absent:** Senator Ready

**Guests:** Patrick Martin, Vice-Chair Porter, Parliamentarian Alvarez, Senator Haslett, Clerk Roy, Pro Tempore Harmon, Senator Jacobsen, Senator Maymon

**Announcements:**

- Chair - Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! Got a couple of things tonight. Rules and Procedure for one. Sojos isn't here so we won't be hearing his bills and Lavender can't make the meeting either.
- Vice Chair - Senate T-Shirts. Please check your emails thank you. Holiday sweater Senate this upcoming meeting on 12/4
- Members
  - Weber: This friday at 11am in Mendenhall 101, I'm meeting with the biking & pedestrian committee. We're looking to fund 3 bike racks in areas of campus that don't currently have access to them. One of the 71st Senate resolutions will be revived, look out for that!
- Guests
  - Patrik Martin: Starting the Torchlight Policy Center. Student government tries to model themselves after state and federal governments and think-tanks are part of that legislative process. It's time we had one at FSU! I'm looking for people to join my fact check team, so if you get the email please consider joining!

**Committee Business:**

- **Bill 3** - Sponsored by Senator Sojos - To ensure all necessary campaign related documents submitted to the Supervisor of Elections by candidates or political parties are made publicly available before any campaign violation decision is issued by the Supervisor of Elections, the Elections Commission, or the Supreme Court.
- **Rules & Procedure Installation** - Determining rules for the Judiciary Committee
- **Bill 6** - Sponsored by Senator Sojos - To allow for Senators to be inducted to the Senate hall of fame solely by resolution.
- **Bill 9** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - To create a consistently enforceable election code.

- **Bill 10** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - To increase transparency in campaign contribution statements.
- **Bill 11** - Sponsored by Senator Lavender - Revision to Chapter 205 Code of Ethics.

#### Old Business:

- **Bill 3** - Sponsored by Senator Sojos - To ensure all necessary campaign related documents submitted to the Supervisor of Elections by candidates or political parties are made publicly available before any campaign violation decision is issued by the Supervisor of Elections, the Elections Commission, or the Supreme Court.
  - Abstain moves to table. Recht seconds. **Bill is tabled**

#### New Business:

- **Rules & Procedure Installation** - Determining rules for the Judiciary Committee
  - Primozic moves to adopt current rules. Slimak seconds. **Rules adopted**
  - Recht: What's the point of 2.6?
  - Leckie: Typically when a non-Senator wants to speak, a motion has to be recognised to allow him to speak.
  - Slimak: Can we switch 2.5 and 2.6 to make more sense?
  - Leckie: Sure
  - Slimak: Can I fix the double spacing between the things?
  - Leckie: Sure
- **Bill 6** - Sponsored by Senator Sojos - To allow for Senators to be inducted to the Senate hall of fame solely by resolution.
  - Recht moves to table. Ascanio seconds. **Bill is tabled**
- **Bill 9** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - To create a consistently enforceable election code.
  - Weber - Opening: When I wrote the bill the statues weren't updated, so I need someone to move to fix that. The goal here is to fix one of the biggest holes in election code we've had yet. The elections code is enforceable 3 weeks before the election but there's no enforcement after the election so we need to fix this. Supervisor Jain basically endorses the bill. Supreme Court have mentioned that this has also been an issue in the past. Yields 1:03.
  - Primozic - Technical Non-Debatable: This includes not just before the election?
  - Weber: Yes
  - Porter - Technical Non-Debatable: Will this revision impact the spring election?
  - Weber: Actually, no.
  - Slimak moves to enter into round table. Primozic seconds.
  - Recht: Would you be interested in an amendment about changing the phrasing about specific dates and times?
  - Gerdts: I don't think that's necessary because we'd be putting a section of the statute in that'd only matter for this year. I think that leads to some legal questions. The way it's written now allows the election code to be enforced all the time, but changing it would change that.
  - Slimak: My only concern I think is that academic year can be confusing. Can we consider using the phrasing "year-round" or "at all times"?
  - Weber: I just did that because the point of an election code restricts things while we're in an academic setting. I think all year around would be exceeding our powers and we don't want the Supreme Court to strike that down. We can't go beyond our scope.
  - Gerdts: So this is the first day of fall to the end of fall semester, and same for spring?

- Weber: Yes
- Gerdts: So on a totally different note, an issue I have with this is that there is a lot of questions about ambiguity in the election code. While I do agree, my only worry is that by extending this through the academic year, you're extending all the issue we see for 3 weeks each semester to a year-round issue.
- Weber: CJ Moorhead wrote out that the legislature doesn't need to specify everything we mean through definitions. Elections Supervisor is paid year-round even though some months there's nothing going on. They're onboard with having elections code enforced all year round so they have things to do be doing.
- Slimak moves to amend to accept the updated version of the legislation Primozic seconds. **Bill amended.**
- Slimak - Point of Clarification: I believe we could add proviso to this on how we apply this to the first semester
- Weber: I'd be friendly to proviso language because I understand this is a big chance.
- Gerdts moves to call the question. Ascanio seconds.
- Weber - Closing: Thanks for the debate and the concerns. This was the Supreme Court and Election Commission's idea. I encourage you to vote yes! 0:40 yielded.
  - Abstain - Yes
  - Ascanio - Yes
  - England - Yes
  - Gerdts - No
  - Primozic - Yes
  - Recht - Yes
  - Silvia - Yes
  - Slimak - Abstain
  - Weber - Yes
- **Bill 10** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - To increase transparency in campaign contribution statements.
  - Weber - Opening: Looking through election code and I found that individuals have to report their things to political parties but organisations don't Given organisations often donate to political parties, organisations should have to do the same. Helps us know who's paying what. Yields 2:00
  - Gerdts moves to enter round table. Primozic seconds.
  - Gerdts: I don't think dark money is a big issue in our elections, but if you receive a donation you should be able to tell us where/who it's from. I believe this is helping to make sure our election code doesn't discriminate between different people.
  - Primozic: I only see an issue with it in who is defined as "donating". Who's donating what and does it come from an individual or organisation. E.g. Organisation's President donating money -- is it theirs or the organisation?
  - Weber: If you're an officer of the organisation using that organisation's funds it should be under the organisation. If it's individual funds then it's individual funds.
  - Vice-Chair Porter: What would stop someone setting up a shell organisation for people to then donate money to that organisation to then donate to the party? Permitted or prevented?
  - Weber: The day we get super PACs in SGA is the day I croak. I know the gofundme issues but it's never evolved into super PACs.
  - Recht: I see the issues over who is donating if it's individuals vs organisations. I yield in full support.
  - Weber: We can subpoena and demand the information if needed.

- Gerds moves to call the question. Recht seconds.
- Weber - Closing: Thanks for questions, comments, queries and support. Look forward to your support!
  - Absten - Yes
  - Ascanio - Yes
  - England - Yes
  - Gerds - Yes
  - Primozić - Yes
  - Recht - Yes
  - Silvia - Yes
  - Slimak - Yes
  - Weber - Yes
- **Bill 11** - Sponsored by Senator Lavender - Revision to Chapter 205 Code of Ethics.
  - Gerds moves to table. Recht seconds. **Bill is tabled**

**Unfinished Business:** None

**Committee Legislative Round Table:**

- Gerds: Ad-Hoc on apportionment has closed! Everything has been submitted and it'll hopefully be submitted to this committee this weekend. I will find you if you don't read it over Christmas!
- Slimak: I hope we have a Press Secretary in January! I'm re-uploading the things tomorrow. If anyone is free tomorrow and wants to look it over, I'll be submitting it.

**Final Announcements:**

- Gerds: Sorry for being late. I adore this committee. Thank you to the people here who have been to the apportionment committee. Thank you to former chair Jacobsen for helping me get started on this project. Doing work in committees is a lot of work but is fun! I hope the tension of Judiciary goes away as this is the fun committee!
- Weber: Thanks again for the support on my two bills tonight. Things will get contentious Wednesday as people don't read minutes, but please be consistent with your votes! If something changes and you vote differently tomorrow, please let me know why.
- England: This is the last meeting before winter break so I wish everyone safe travels and an enjoyable holiday season.
- Jacobsen: Hey guys! The work done in Judiciary is super important. I'm looking forward to hearing what you have to say on the floor tomorrow. Make sure to speak in pro and con on the floor if you did in committee.
- Alvarez: Thanks for not making my job difficult tonight
- Patrick Martin: If you want to join my fact checking team, let me know!
- Leckie: Remember this is a collaborative space. We are working together at the end of the day!

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

**Adjourned:** 8:54 p.m.

*Griffin Leckie*

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Signature of Chair