



**72<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date: March 9th, 2020**

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

**Members Present:** Chair Leckie, Vice Chair Slimak, Senator(s) Absten, Ascanio, Parker, Read, Recht, Sojos, Weber

**Members Tardy:** Senator(s)

**Members Excused Absent:** Senator(s)

**Members Absent:** Senator(s) Gerds, Silvia

**Guests:** Gnanam, Villacorta, Daraldik, Chabot, Maymon, Jacobsen, Cohen, Porter, Ashley Gonzalez, Baxter, Andrea Moran-Melendez

**Announcements:**

- Chair - We got this!
- Vice Chair - We got this!
- Guests -
  - Villacorta: For campus emergency response plan, please watch your email and university announcements for updates. Please watch hands and keep healthy.
  - Chabot: If you would like to attend a philanthropy on Wednesday night before Senate please let me know!

**Committee Business:**

- **Bill 26** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - to amend Student Body Statutes Chapter 504 in regards to qualifications for the Student Defender position. This bill will allow any student enrolled at Florida State who has completed at least 60 credit hours to be eligible for the position, given approval and forwarding by the appropriate parties.
- **Bill 31** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to define major legislation. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
- **Bill 35** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to outline legislative procedure related to holy days. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
- **Resolution 36** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to increase the oversight role of the Internal Affairs Committee
- **Bill 52** - Sponsored by Senators Gnanam and Villacorta - to ban the purchase and use of disposable plastic water bottles with A&S Monies.
- **Bill 53** - Sponsored by Senator Cohen - to ensure smoother debate within the finance committee regarding consent resolutions, and maintain an updated knowledge of the current funding boards by all members of the funding boards, in addition to the finance committee.

- **Bill 55** - Sponsored by Senators Baxter and Lavender - to create the Mental Health Council (MHC). The MHC would serve as a council in SGA, in conjunction with the University Counseling Center.
- **Bill 59** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - to restore checks and balances to SGA.
- **Bill 60** - Sponsored by Senator Jacobsen - to make Senior Class Council a defined major office.
- **Bill 61** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - to create a designated survivor for the State of the Student Body Address.
- **Bill 62** - Sponsored by Senators Villacorta and Gnanam - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Hispanic/Latinx Student Union from Student Body Statutes.
- **Bill 63** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Pride Student Union from Student Body Statutes.
- **Bill 64** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Veterans Student Union from Student Body Statutes.
- **Bill 65** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Veterans Student Union from Student Body Statutes [**Repeat of Bill 64**].

#### Old Business:

- **Bill 26** - Sponsored by Senator Adamyk - to amend Student Body Statutes Chapter 504 in regards to qualifications for the Student Defender position. This bill will allow any student enrolled at Florida State who has completed at least 60 credit hours to be eligible for the position, given approval and forwarding by the appropriate parties.
  - **TABLED**
- **Bill 31** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to define major legislation. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
  - **TABLED**
- **Bill 35** - Sponsored by Senator Levin - to outline legislative procedure related to holy days. [REMANDED BACK TO JUDICIARY]
  - **TABLED**

#### New Business:

- **Resolution 36** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to increase the oversight role of the Internal Affairs Committee
  - Opening Statement
    - Villacorta: IA has discussed this, we do bureau review every year. We would like to do this as well with major office positions. This will allow us to talk with the positions on campus, how we can help with any issues, how we can work with them. This will allow us to make a recommendation to the Senate. The only current way to keep groups accountable is through impeachment. This will allow an alternative check. This also delates the professionalism workshop that IA is supposed to host
  - Technical, Non-Detableable
    - Sojos: Have you talked to exec about this?
      - No
    - Rect: who have you talked to about this?
      - IA members
  - Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Weber seconds
  - Round Table

- Ready: I like that we are taking out the Professionalism workshops, I understand the intent of it, but I believe this is already under 406. I do not know if we need this as well. This gives a lot of power to one committee within Senate
  - Slimak: The Vice President works directly with the major offices on campus, within bureaus and affiliated projects. I believe this conversation is already taking place. I would like to see communication within the executive branch first
  - Villacorta: A lot of people are afraid of the term investigation in senate. This will allow for a more casual conversation to work together with groups. I have heard of complaints of major offices. I think it is better to have two sets of eyes on issues possibly on campus
  - Weber: What allows you to impeach the justices in front of their own body? This pulls us in as a major office
  - Villacorta: I'm open to amendments to specific questions
  - Ready: 406 already allows a start for an investigative board. I do not think we need two places for this.
  - Recht: I love that there is an investigative board, this allows for groups who do not come to go into investigation. I would like to have more defined information laid out here. I want more description to this
  - Villacorta: A few students last semester said the SOE was not doing his job fully, but senators did not want to use 406 as a full investigation. Rather have a conversation with the positions to see what is going on.
  - Sojos: This is any major office, not officer, so is this on the group as a whole or a position.
  - Villicorta: Any reasonable interpretation of statutes would show that this is the job rather than role itself. No one would have this misconception. I would be friendly to an amendment to office holder if you really want
  - Rect: This would become a major role of IA, so as of right now I would vote no. This needs more time and development. I would be open to tabling this and helping work on it throughout this time.
  - Sojos: I think if anything this needs to be a bill in statutes, so it allows power over everyone rather than under Rules that just affects the Senate. This may create a double standard.
  - Weber: I see the potential in this bill, but i agree that this needs some legwork
  - Recht moves to add Chobot as a primary sponsor and Gnanam as a co-sponsor
  - Sojos seconds
  - Senator Weber moves to table for two weeks
  - Senator Ascanio seconds
  - **TABLED**
- **Bill 52** - Sponsored by Senators Gnanam and Villacorta - to ban the purchase and use of disposable plastic water bottles with A&S Monies.
  - Opening Statement
    - Villicorta and Gnanam: We understand that this is a shocking bill. We cannot imagine our lives without them right now. We did not rush into, we also spoke with others around campus. Recycling is the last thing that we should be doing, first we should reduce and reuse. A lot of our recycling goes overseas, so as of right now, we are not recycling our recycling. The

amendments in Finance would help with this through emergency circumstances. Long term this is cost efficient for SGA. We did not rush into this, we have already amended some of these issues. We understand the debate and look forward. We have worked a lot with sustainable campus

- Senator Weber moves to enter Round Table Discussion
- Senator Sojos seconds
- Senator Ready moves to call the question
- Senator Weber seconds
- Closing:
  - I may have some announcements at the end of this
- Vote
  - Absten - Yes
  - Ascanio - Yes
  - Ready - No
  - Recht - No
  - Slimak - No
  - Sojos - No
  - Weber - No
- **Bill RESULT 5-2-0 Bill Fails**
- **Bill 53** - Sponsored by Senator Cohen - to ensure smoother debate within the finance committee regarding consent resolutions, and maintain an updated knowledge of the current funding boards by all members of the funding boards, in addition to the finance committee.
  - Opening Statement
    - Cohen: The purpose of this is two fold, first to address the current statutes where currently consent resolution needs to be objected to be debated. Thank you previous senators for already doing this. The second is to get rid of program assistant, and to clarify what counts as the budget. This allows for understanding what exactly is the measure of the budget. I believe what is publicly available is what Senators and students use to base off of.
  - Senator Recht moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Round Table
    - Slimak: Thanks for taking program assistant out, appreciate transparency
    - Recht: I like this, as it allows for transparency.
    - Weber: I look forward to this, i hope that this helps finance and PAC and RTAC resolutions go smoother
  - Senator Recht moves to call the question
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Closing:
    - Thank you Senate, Finance has been discussing solutions to funding board issues, I hope to have information and proposals to give soon. Please come to finance tomorrow at 7 pm to throw in ideas for this
  - Vote
    - Absten - Yes
    - Ascanio - Yes

- Ready - Yes
    - Recht - Yes
    - Slimak - Yes
    - Sojos - Yes
    - Weber - Yes
  - **Bill RESULT 7-0-0 Bill PASSES**
- **Bill 55** - Sponsored by Senators Baxter and Lavender - to create the Mental Health Council (MHC). The MHC would serve as a council in SGA, in conjunction with the University Counseling Center.
  - Opening Statement
    - Baxter: The mental health council allows for mental health advocacy for students by students. This is not students giving mental health, rather advocating for it. Every step of the way students will be working closely with the counseling center. \*reads letter from Director of of Counseling Center listed bellow\*
  - Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Recht seconds
  - Round Table
    - Asconio: Both sponsors care very deeply with this bill. Thank you to the sponsors for the hard work
    - Recht: Thank you so much for this. I really appreciate this bill. This is a well written bill, thank you with that.
    - Recht moves to amend 9.14.3 A1 to say the MHC will work with
    - Slimak Seconds, Sponsor finds friendly
    - Baxter: I need 3 more amendments, just to clarify a few things we have overlooked with such a large bill.
    - Slimak: 9.14.6 B1 strikethrough: strikethrough firing staff
    - Slimak Weber 9.14.8 B1G fully strikethrough
    - Sojos moves to add Villacorta as a cosponsor
    - Recht seconds, sponsor finds friendly
    - Recht moves to strick through last sentence of 914.4B
    - Slimak seconds
    - Porter: I am confused about the differences between this and previous questions.
  - Senator Weber moves to call the question
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Closing: Thank you all so much. This is my final bill, I appreciate you all.
  - Vote
    - Absten - Yes
    - Ascanio - Yes
    - Ready - Yes
    - Recht - Yes
    - Slimak - Yes
    - Sojos - Yes
    - Weber - Yes
  - **Bill RESULT 7-0-0**
- **Bill 59** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - to restore checks and balances to SGA.

## Opening Statement

- Weber: This bill is big and scary. The supreme court was going through statutes, and all said that 206 was a major overstep of Judicial powers. This restores a lot of powers back to Legislative branch, and some nominal goes to executive branch. This follows the Florida government. I have left the power to freeze funds, as they have and will probably use it again.
- Senator Sojos moves to enter Round Table Discussion
- Senator Asconio seconds
- Round Table
  - Recht: The only thing I see so far is a simple majority vote, rather say majority opinion because they dont fully do votes.
  - Porter: I am confused by 206B, could this situation come into play?
    - Yes, this would drop the Agency or Bureau down to an RSO
    - Would this allow the executive branch to change statutes?
    - This is something, I would be friendly to an amendment allowing the exec branch to make a recommendation
  - Slimak: have you spoken at all to the executive branch?
    - No I have not, because it is not affecting them in a major way. It is so minor, so it wasn't necessary to go hunt them down.
  - Recht: I think that 1 is irrelevant, as it doubles itself
  - Recht moves to strikethrough 206.2A1
  - Sojos seconds
  - Weber moves to amend bill
  - Sojos Seconds
  - Recht objects
  - Recht moves to amend 206.2 B to allow the student body present to give a recommendation for suspension or permanent removal
  - Sojos seconds, sponsor finds it friendly
- Senator Ready moves to call the question
- Senator Sojos seconds
- Closing: thank you for the members of the committee to helping us work together. I know that this is the first step to the process to make this work
- Vote
  - Absten - Yes
  - Ascanio - Yes
  - Ready - Yes
  - Recht - Yes
  - Slimak - Abst
  - Sojos - Yes
  - Weber - Yes
- **Bill RESULT 6-0-1**
- **Bill 60** - Sponsored by Senator Jacobsen - to make Senior Class Council a defined major office.
  - Opening Statement
    - Jacobsen: I was recently elected Senior Class Council, within statutes there are a few weird ways in which i could stay within senate, some would not. This group has its own set of statutes. I
  - Technical, Non-Detableable

- X:
      - Senator Ready moves to enter Round Table Discussion
      - Senator Sojos seconds
      - Round Table
        - X:
      - Senator Ready moves to call the question
      - Senator Weber seconds
      - Vote
        - Absten - Yes
        - Ascanio - Yes
        - Ready - Yes
        - Recht - Yes
        - Slimak - Yes
        - Sojos - Yes
        - Weber - Yes
        - **Bill RESULT 7-0-0**
- **Bill 61** - Sponsored by Senator Weber - to create a designated survivor for the State of the Student Body Address.  
Opening Statement
  - Weber: This bill creates a negative omen, I am going to withdrawl the bill.
  - **Bill Withdrawn**
- **Bill 62** - Sponsored by Senators Villacorta and Gnanam - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Hispanic/Latinx Student Union from Student Body Statutes.  
Opening Statement
  - Villicorta and Gnanam: In statutes many agencies allow to veto or allow change to their statutes. HLSU would like to retain the power, Pride and VSU are friendly to this. I look forward to questions.
  - Senator Ready moves to enter Round Table Discussion
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Round Table
    - Asacnio moves to amend the bill to join bills 63, 64, 65 together into 62
    - Sojos Seconds
  - Senator Ready moves to call the question
  - Senator Sojos seconds
  - Vote
    - Absten - Abst
    - Ascanio - Yes
    - Ready - Yes
    - Recht - Yes
    - Slimak - Abst
    - Sojos - Yes
    - Weber - Yes
    - **Bill RESULT 5-0-2**
- **Bill 63** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Pride Student Union from Student Body Statutes.

- **Withdrawn**
- **Bill 64** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Veterans Student Union from Student Body Statutes.
  - **Withdrawn**
- **Bill 65** - Sponsored by Senator Villacorta - to remove unconstitutional powers of the Veterans Student Union from Student Body Statutes **[Repeat of Bill 64]**.
  - **Withdrawn**

**Unfinished Business:** None

**Committee Legislative Round Table:**

Slimak: Picnic tables are being submitted!!! Ish. There was a major hiccup this morning that has slowed this so much. We are making it work, but thank you all for the support along this long way

Porter: I submitted a bill that will change the timeline for spring awards. This clarifies when the timeline would be selected. This should be at the next judiciary meeting. I am also thinking of changing the way we are give student pay. I need to talk to Dr. Acosta before that goes to the floor

Weber: Thank you Chair Leckie for helping get us through such a difficult meeting.

Recht: Elections code will be coming though just after spring break.

Absten: I am working with Senator Cohen on the naming committee bill and will be coming soon

Leckie: I have a bill coming up that will be quite controversial, and just wanted to give a heads up. This will reduce all large group meetings. If you would like to cosponsor please let me know. I would also like to hear your thoughts

**Final Announcements:**

Leckie: Thank you all for coming tonight. I appreciate you

Ready: I didn't think we would get through everything tonight, thank you to my committee. We got through everything this week. I am very proud of our efficiency

Weber: Watch out for price gouging on hand sanitizer

Slimak: Thank you all so much, I am so grateful to be able to work with you

Jacobsen: I miss being in this committee, please wash your hands, take care of yourself, you got this!!

Villacorta: Upset with the non-debate on bill 52.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Not during **Spring Break!**

**Adjourned:** 9:37 p.m.

*Griffin Leckie*

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Signature of Chair