



**73rd Student Senate
Finance Committee Agenda
June 8th, 2021 | Zoom Meeting ID: 307 376 6469**

Call to Order: 7:02pm

Members Present: Chair Marcus, Vice Chair Soto, Senators Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Randall, Zittrauer

Members Tardy:

Members Absent:

Guests: Senators T. Murray, Tackett, Hadley

Approval of the Minutes:

- Soto moves
- Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements:

- None

Committee Business:

- Rules of Procedure
 - Randall: **POI** - If the Rules of Procedure were already approved in the Spring semester, then why are we doing it again?
 - Marcus: I just figured to refresh everyone with this because Vice Chair Soto and I are the only ones that stayed on the Finance Committee.
 - Randall moves to maintain Rules of Procedure as is
 - Zittrauer seconds
 - **RULES OF PROCEDURE ADOPTED**
- Bill 42
 - Opening statement: Tackett- The biggest part of this bill is to add words that would help with less contradiction in the election and funding rules. We also added a \$200 limit and election dues do not count towards the \$200. This is to help correct grammar errors and such. Marcus- One thing I am really big about is transparency, and one thing that needs more transparency is election finances. We live in a digital world where Cashapp, Venmo, and Zelle exist. In regards to the individual donation limit, this would help level the playing
 - Technical Non-debatable



- Randall: How did you choose \$200?
- Marcus: We took some data and saw that around \$200 was the middle ground of the amount of donations, but we would be happy to be flexible with the total amount.
- Randall: What do you mean by party candidate dues?
- Marcus: Usually, candidates pay party dues in order to run with the specific party.
- Randall moves to add “membership” in front of “dues” in 710.4Ei
- Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
- **SPONSOR FINDS AMENDMENT FRIENDLY**
- Randall: Are you finding that specific organizations are donating to candidates?
- Marcus: If they are receiving donations from any organization, then we just want to make sure that we increase the transparency in that process.
- Randall: How are you differentiating between a donor donating or just a student?
- Tackett: We would see it on the final expense report.
- Randall: How would you know that it would be enforced? Who is investigating that?
- Marcus: It is in statutes that if you are donating on behalf of someone that it would have to be documented.
- Randall moves to let a non-committee member to speak
- Zittrauer seconds
- Senator Hadley: I believe that there could be a stipulation or some more enforcement, but I like this bill.
- Randall moves to enter roundtable
- Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
- Roundtable
 - Tackett: If anyone has any suggestions about enforcing and the amount, feel free to let us know.
 - Randall: I think we need to look more into 711. Will it encourage more outside organizations to donate?
 - Tackett: I would argue that the organizations would be more encouraged to donate.
 - Randall: Where would we define “organizations?”
 - Tackett: What do you mean by “organizations?”
 - Randall: There are a lot of people that would fall into that in terms of Registered Student Organizations.
 - Marcus: We were looking at it as outside organizations donating to SGA elections.
 - Zittrauer: I think that this is a good bill, but what is stopping organizations from giving its members donations?



- Marcus: Nothing in this bill is stopping organizations from donating to candidates.
 - Hadley: I think that worrying about these things is a valid concern, but I am not sure if worrying about this is really pertinent towards SGA.
 - Randall moves to amend 710.4 to create “G. If an individual is donating as a proxy for an organization, the entirety of the exchange should be documented.”
 - Zittrauer seconds
 - **SPONSOR FINDS AMENDMENT FRIENDLY**
 - Randall moves to amend 710.4A “i. An organization in this statute shall be defined as a Registered Student Organization (RSO) or non-FSU-affiliated organization.”
 - Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
 - **SPONSORS FINDS AMENDMENT FRIENDLY**
 - Tackett: I have emailed the past two Supervisor of Elections, as well as Ben Young, about the expense reports, but I have yet to hear back.
 - Randall: **POI** - Have you all looked at BSU elections and all elections?
 - Marcus: Yes.
 - Randall: It looks like a lot of candidates are raising over \$250, so do you think we should change the number?
 - Marcus: I think we should keep the amount to \$200 to make it fair and reasonable.
 - Hadley: **POI** - Does this legislation include in-kind donations?
 - Tackett: Could you define what “in-kind” means?
 - Hadley: In-kind donations are goods and services that are given to organizations.
 - Randall moves to call to question
 - Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
 - Closing statement: Marcus- I think we had a productive conversation about this bill. I think we made it more specific, and I am happy with the changes that we made. Tackett- This is going to go through the Judiciary committee, and we want this to go perfectly on the floor.
 - Vote: Y: 3 Pfeuffer-Ferguson, Zittrauer, Randall, N: 0 A: 1 Marcus
 - **BILL IS PASSED TO JUDICIARY**
- Bill 43
 - Opening statement: Tackett- There is only one change with this bill. A 501c4 organization can be partisan and this bill stops partisanship interfering with our SGA elections. Marcus- I think we should
 - Randall moves to enter roundtable
 - Zittrauer seconds
 - Roundtable
 - Tackett: I have worked with a non-partisan organization that works with immigration issues, and they also have a 501c4 where they



donate to specific candidates for their elections. 501c3 is non-taxed and non-profits, whereas 501c4 is partisan and receives tax money.

- Randall: There are a bunch of non-profit organizations that are very biased and partisan.
- Marcus: There was an organization that publicly stated on their social media accounts that they donated money to a specific candidate for their campaign.
- Hadley: I would like to continue a very firm separation of church and state, but can you explain more of the difference between 501c3 and 501c4?
- Randall: 501c3s are tax-free and it is more service-based. There are lots of rules that need to be followed in order to reach that level, as well as forms and boards and such.
- Tackett: I originally put the 501c3 into the bill, and we came to the conclusion of having just 501c4 because of their partisanship.
- Marcus: A lot of this is out of my control, but I do not want any dirty money within our Student Government.
- Randall moves
- Pfeuffer-Ferguson seconds
- Closing statement: I appreciate the debate that we had on this. I did not see any direct donations, but we do have two elections-worth of records go missing. The goal is to increase more transparency within our campaign money and finance elections, as well as keep it on a grassroots scale.
- Vote: Y: 3 Pfeiffer-Ferguson, Randall, Zittrauer N: 0 A: 1 Marcus
- **BILL IS PASSED TO JUDICIARY**

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Approve Rules of Procedure
- Bills and Resolutions
 - Bill 42, sponsored by Marcus & Tackett
 - Bill 43, sponsored by Marcus & Tackett

Unfinished Business:

- None

Final Announcements:

- Randall: I put together the Finance Code and revised all the changes. We started with grammatical errors and such, but we would love to get more input on the Finance Code.



Date and Time of Next Meeting: June 15th at 7:00pm

Adjourned: 8:09pm

Jonathan Mos