



**75<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Finance Committee  
June 6 at 6:45 PM**

<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/95809674180>

**Call to Order: 6:45 PM**

**Members Present:** Chair White, Vice-Chair Bevis, Senators Jones, Fredock, Gessner, Olsson, Hellman

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:** Senator Shaver

**Guests:**

**Land Acknowledgement:** The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people. We recognize this land remains scarred by the histories and ongoing legacies of settlers- colonial violence, dispossession, and removal. In spite of all this, and with tremendous resilience, these Indigenous Nations have remained deeply connected to this territory, to their families, to their communities, and to their cultural ways of life. We recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land and extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.

**Announcements:**

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**Committee Business:**

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**Old Business:**

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**New Business:**

- **Bill #64 - Sponsored by Chair White**
  - Opening Statement:
    - Chair White: So this bill is pretty simple. It just adds onto sweepings, adds onto the statutes relating to sweepings, during sweepings we give out

money to agencies, student leadership councils, campus rec, and other entities that request additional funding. But specifically we can give money to ourselves through sweepings. However, that was not included in the statutes because when we give out funds, you'll see if we have Senate project bills come through here that the funds have to be allocated to a specific thing. And that's where the money has to be spent. Because we have categories that can tell you if I pull book consent resolution, but with that, the money would have to be spent on that category by the RSO. So if you budget the RSO \$100 for a contract, contractual services, but then they end up being able to put that \$100 for food they would need to go through Senate to change that amount, have to change where the funding is coming from and where they can spend the money on. So this bill just puts it into statutes the procedure that would have to be followed. We did this on our last Senate meeting. We had the African American Student Association come and then they presented a bill to get and then a Senator presented a bill on their behalf to get the money to switch categories, and that's what this bill would do. I yield the remainder of my time to my closing.

○ Technical Non-Debatable Questions:

- Senator Fredock: so you mentioned that this is for RSOs, those that are allocated money through sweepings. But I'm not seeing that because chapter 803 of statutes seems to be just about budgetary categories in general. So from kind of my perspective reading this, this looks like this will apply to any RSO that's given money through PAC or RTAC. If they need to change categories, they'd have to go through this?
- Chair White: I believe it would. It would also probably apply to that but when they go through RTAC and PAC by that time they know what they want to spend money on. This mainly would affect the entities at the beginning of the year that get money through sweepings. Sweepings is like budgeted funds. So it would be affecting them that like requests in the beginning of the year. And then as they see how the money gets used when that ends up changing categories while they're in PAC or RTAC, you can make amendments while it's being decided on to fix the categories during the meetings before they pass the consent resolution.

○ **Senator Fredock moves to enter round-table discussion; Chair White seconds**

○ Round-Table Discussion:

- Senator Fredock: So one smaller concern I have with this, the language is mentioning like a chief executive of like, you know for the SGA entities is not a big deal. But for RSO those typically have a board and I don't think giving the this power to just like an RSO's president is the best.
- Chair White: so I can respond to that. That's because most of the time you have to have your RSO, you have to have your financial, your ones that have financial certification and a majority of the time that's usually the president or the director of finance. So that's what it means by director or chief executive, the people that are financially certified, which is why that

language is included. And usually the President will need to sign up anyways for most organizations for the financials. Which is why that's already part of the bill previously.

- **Chair White moves to call the question; Senator Jones seconds; Senator Fredock objects, motion fails**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - Senator Fredock: I guess another comment because you had said during questioning that this would mostly affect our RSOs through sweepings, but I can kind of foresee like, from my own experience when I was going through some travel with an RSO so like, you know, we had applied to get money from mileage, and mileage is a hard thing to predict exactly how much money you're going to need right. So like what ended up happening is like, you know, the money we had requested for the hotel didn't fully fund like, we didn't need that full thing for the hotel it turned out, so we ended up applying some of that to mileage. So like under the language of that bill would we have to before we're able to get reimbursed for that get a Senate transfer bill signed and whatnot?
  - Chair White: From my understanding to switch money between categories you would have already, you would already have been supposed to go to SGA accounting and Senate to get that switched before the reimbursement. But this bill would most, it's the main point of this bill is to apply to, and but entities that get budgeted transfers from sweepings that have to change like thousands like two to three thousand dollars, and like the spring when they realized they need money for another categories. And to transfer you already do have to go to Senate, which is why we added this because it wasn't clear. Because RSOs used to not receive money from sweepings. They used to only be able to receive money from RTAC and PAC. So this bill applied to this now that they do receive money from sweepings. So this bill was to make the change that we enforced last Senate and the rules and procedures it says that it's a statute.
  - Senator Fredock: That's the case and can we amend to just include that for sweepings?
  - Chair White: I would not find that friendly just because they already do have to go to Senate if there's any transfer in the services fees technically that goes against the financial manual and SGA accounting rules because you're supposed to follow the categories. You're not supposed to switch funds in between categories. You've got to go through Senate to reallocate it for you or go to accounting because they're not supposed to reimburse you for anything else that's not exactly specified for you to be spending.
- **Senator Fredock moves to call the question; Senator Olsson seconds**
- Closing Statement:

- Chair White: I yield my time
- Vote:
  - Yes: [6] Senators White, Jones, Fredock, Gessner, Olsson, Hellman
  - No: [0]
  - Abstain: [0]
- **RESULT: BILL #64 PASSES**

**Unfinished Business:**

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**Closing Announcements:**

- Chair White: It was great meeting all of you. I'm so happy you guys decided to join the Finance Committee. I will be leaving after our next meeting. I will be leaving next Senate after the next two meetings for the summer and will return in the fall. So if you have any questions, please reach out. I've been in the finance committee for almost a year now, I would love to talk about with you. I would love to explain some of the things they're going to happen after July 1 during the committee because after July 1 fiscal year restarts so there's funding and we will probably have some allocation bills that will be discussed here in July. Relating to Senate projects, we'll have probably some more financial statute changes coming soon too. So if any of you have any questions or need a time change or want to run for chair in like two weeks, in three weeks, please reach out to me and I hope you all have a great day.

**Next Meeting: June 20 6:45 PM**

**Adjourned: 7:15 PM**

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**Signature of Chair:** *Spencer White*