

**A Bill to Amend the Code of Student Governance
B. #24**

32nd STUDENT SENATE
1st Session
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A Bill to Amend the Code of Student Governance

**IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

December 1, 2011

Submitted By Chairman Short (Government & Academic Affairs)

Bill #24

A Bill to Amend the Code of Student Governance

Be it enacted by the Student Senate of George Mason University,

1) That Title II Subtitle I: Chapter 1 § 105, § 106, and § 108 be amended to read the following:

§ 105 Election of Speaker of the Student Senate

~~Two tellers shall be appointed by~~ The Clerk of the *proceeding* Student Senate ~~to shall~~ *administer through a roll call vote the election of the Speaker of the Student Senate. He shall* record the votes for the election of Speaker of the Student Senate and the votes having been ascertained and counted, the result of the same shall be delivered to the Clerk, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the person, if any, elected Speaker of the Student Senate of George Mason University, and, together with a list of the votes, be entered on the Journal of the Student Senate.

§ 106 Election of Speaker Pro-Tempore of the Student Senate

~~Two tellers shall be appointed by~~ The Clerk of the *proceeding* Student Senate ~~to shall~~ *administer through a roll call vote the election of the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate. He shall* record the votes having been ascertained and counted, the result of the same shall be delivered to the Clerk, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote, which announcement shall be deemed sufficient declaration of the person, if any, elected Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate of George Mason University, and, together with a list of the votes, shall be entered on the Journal of the Student Senate.

§ 108 Appointment of New Senators

If after fall elections, the Senate does not have 40 members, the appointment of new senators will take effect.

- (1) In order to be considered a prospective Senator, a minimum of 150 signatures from the Students at George Mason University must be obtained, as well as a Faculty/Staff signature as per the Election and Dispute Commission's rules for campaign eligibility in 6CSG §305 before the Student Senate may approve any new appointee's. Applications for appointment will not be accepted from 4:29p.m. on the first Thursday in March until after the fall elections.
- (2) Before appearing before the full senate, the Government and Academic Affairs committee shall administer the interview process, the specific contents of which are left to the sole discretion of the Chair of the Government and Academic Affairs Committee. *The voting process of such appointments shall be done by roll call vote.*
- (3) Upon approval by *a majority roll call vote* of the Senate, prospective Senators may: attend meetings, participate in debate, voice opinion, and exercise any other non-voting Senate privileges. However, prospective Senators must attend two Senate meetings, appropriate committee meetings and any Senate education classes as set by the speaker, before allowed voting privileges. After two meetings, including the meeting at which said Senator was given the oath of office; prospective Senators are granted full privileges as a Senator. The Speaker may exercise his discretion to excuse appointed candidates who are returning senators if there are extenuating circumstances. The Speaker also may exercise his discretion to excuse appointed candidates in case of extenuating time conflicts or constraints.
- (4) Prospective senators attending meetings shall be counted for attendance purposes. Only voting members of the Senate body shall constitute quorum. After attending two Senate meetings, prospective Senators shall be granted the same rights as a Senator.

2) That Title I: Chapter 3: subsection § 308 be eliminated:

~~§ 308 Bills to Amend the Code of Student Governance~~

~~*Bills to amend the Code of Student Governance shall be drafted to conform to the structure of the Code of Student Governance of George Mason University, as provided in chapter 3. Such Bill shall require a two thirds vote of the Senate.*~~

3) That Title I be amended to add Chapter 4: Amending the Code of Student Governance

Chapter 4: Amending the Code of Student Governance

§ 401 Quarterly Calendar of Amendments to the Code of Student Governance

The Speaker of the Student Senate shall at the beginning of the Academic year, break the year up into quarters. These quarters shall match up with the established Financial Quarterly Calendar as established in Title V Chapter 1 §102.1. At the end of these quarters, the Code shall have the opportunity to be amended. These four times shall be the only times in the Academic Year that the Code of Student Governance can be amended, with the exception of cases that apply to §404.

§ 402 Process to Amend the Code of Student Governance

The process for amending the Code of Student Governance shall go as follows:

- (1) Three weeks before the end of each Quarter, the Speaker of the Student Senate shall ask the Chair of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee to offer a bill for amendments to the Code of Student Governance, which shall then be open to any senator for any submitted changes.*
- (2) Senators shall have until noon on Tuesday of the second week before the end of the Quarter to submit any changes and amendments to the Code, to the Chair of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee to add to the Bill. If no amendments are submitted by the established time, then the bill will not proceed.*
- (3) The Chair of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee, on behalf of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee, shall submit the Bill for First Reading to the Clerk of the Student Senate by 4:30pm on Wednesday of the second week before the end of the Quarter.*
- (4) The Bill shall then, at the discretion of the Speaker of the Student Senate, be sent to the Government and Academic Affairs Committee to be approved for Second Reading during the last week of the Quarter but before the Senate meeting in that last week.*
- (5) Upon passage of the Bill in the Government and Academic Affairs Committee, the Student Senate shall vote on the Bill on the Thursday of the last week of the Quarter.*

§ 403 Bills to Amend the Code of Student Governance

Bills to amend the Code of Student Governance shall be drafted to conform to the structure of the Code of Student Governance of George Mason University, as provided in chapter 3. Such Bill shall require a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

§404 Emergency Amendments to the Code of Student Governance

If an emergency, which shall be determined at the discretion of the Speaker, arises, then the Speaker may ask the Chair of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee, on behalf of the Government & Academic Affairs Committee, to write a bill to address the emergency amendment. The bill will then be submitted to the Clerk of the Student Senate at the next opportunity to do so, for First Reading. The Bill, at the discretion of the Speaker, shall then be sent to the Government & Academic Affairs Committee to be approved for Second Reading. If approved by the

Government & Academic Affairs Committee, the Bill shall be reported back to the Senate at the following Senate meeting to be voted on by the entire Senate.

- 4) That Title II Subtitle II: Chapter 4 be amended to add the following:

§ 405 Voting Procedures in Committee and Senate on Bills and Resolutions

After a bill or resolution has been moved into Second reading and recognized as such by the Speaker, when in Senate, or by the Chair, when in Committee, the bill or resolution shall be voted on using a roll call vote.

- 5) That Title II Subtitle III: Chapter 5 § 502 be amended to read as follows:

§ 502 Vacancy in Office

In the event of a vacancy in the office of any officer of the Student Senate during a recess of the Senate, a successor to fill said vacancy shall be appointed by the Speaker. *Upon the reconvening of Senate, the members of the Senate/Committee affected by the appointment shall confirm, in Senate/Committee, by a majority in a roll call vote the Appointed Officer of the Senate/Committee. If the affected Senate/Committee does not pass the Appointed Officer, then the Senate/Committee shall elect from amongst themselves a new Officer to fill the vacancy.*

- 6) That Title II Subtitle III: Chapter 8 § 802 be amended to read as follows:

§ 802 Clerk of the Student Senate

A Clerk of the Student Senate shall be appointed by the Senate from among the members of the Senate, and confirmed by the members thereof, to manage, supervise, and administer the Office of the Clerk. *The appointment of the Clerk of the Student Senate shall be done by a roll call vote following the election of the Speaker and the Speaker Pro Tempore.* The Clerk shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate, for a term coincident with that of the Speaker making the appointment, and shall continue in office until a successor shall be appointed and qualified.

- 7) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 10 § 1003 be amended to read as follows:

§ 1003 Chair of Governmental and Academic Affairs Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of the Government and Academic Affairs Committee to be the head of the Governmental and Academic Affairs Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting.*

The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.

- 8) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 11 § 1103 be amended to state the following:

§ 1103 Chair of University Services Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of University Services Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the University Services Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting.* The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.

- 9) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 12 § 1203 be amended to state the following:

§ 1203 Chair of University Relations Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of University Relations Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting.* The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.

- 10) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 13 § 1303 be amended to state the following:

§ 1303 Chair of the Senate Financial Affairs Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of the Senate Financial Affairs Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the Senate Finance Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting.* The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.

- 11) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 14 § 1403 be amended to state the following:

§ 1403 Chair of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of the Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads*

of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting. The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.

12) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 15 § 1503 be amended to state the following:

§ 1503 Chair of University Life Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of the University Life Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the University Life Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting. The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.*

13) That Title II Subtitle IV: Chapter 16 § 1603 be amended to state the following:

§ 1603 Chair of M.A.S.O.N. Committee

~~The Senate shall elect a~~ *At the first meeting of the Student Senate, the Senate shall elect by roll call vote a Chair of the M.A.S.O.N. Committee of the Student Senate to be the head of the M.A.S.O.N. Committee. Per the Constitution, members of a said Committee shall elect the heads of the Committee and, seeing as everyone in Senate at the first Senate meeting is a member of every committee, the full Senate shall have the power to elect the Chair at the first meeting. The Chair shall hold office at the pleasure of the Senate for a term coincident with that of the Senate making the appointment, or until a successor shall be appointed.*

Passed the Student Senate: _____

Attest:

Speaker: Tommy Lee

Clerk: Elizabeth Baires

President: Allyson Bowers

