
Legislation

Student Government

10-5-2020

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

Student Government Association University of North Florida

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/sgaleg>



Student
Government
University of North Florida

SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-20F-3518

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

- 1 Whereas:
2 The Student Government of the University of North Florida was established to represent
3 student concerns in all University wide matters, and;
4 Whereas:
5 The Senate is the legislative body of the University of North Florida's Student Government given
6 the responsibility of carrying out such legislative acts that are necessary and proper for the
7 Student Body of the University of North Florida; and;
8 Whereas:
9 The Constitution Revision Committee agreed that having constitutionally mandated
10 representatives of the Student Alliance for Inclusion and Diversity would increase diversity in
11 Senate and provide a permanent place for these groups to have a voice on topics that Senate
12 discusses; and;
13 Whereas:
14
15 Whereas:
16 The Committee made changes to certain words to more accurately represent the purpose of
17 Student Government actions; and;
18 Therefore:
19 The following necessary and proper revision to the Student Government Constitution is being
20 proposed
21
22

ARTICLE II: THE LEGISLATURE

Section 1: Composition

25
26
27 The legislative powers of the Student Government shall be vested in the Senate, which shall consist of
28 forty (40) senators.
29
30

Section 2: Terms of Senators

31
32
33 A. Elected Senators: Elected Senators shall be elected for terms of one (1) year, and shall be limited
34 to a maximum of six (6) terms.
35

36 B. Appointed Senators: If a vacancy occurs, the Senate may appoint a substitute to serve for the
37 remainder of the term as prescribed by law.

38 823 _____
39 _____

Section 3: Representatives of Student Alliance for Inclusion and Diversity

40
41 A. Student Alliance for Inclusion and Diversity (SAID) representatives' seats are perpetual

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Body Text, Justified, Level 3, Right: 0.08",
Space After: 12 pt, Outline numbered + Level: 1 +
Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 823 + Alignment:
Left + Aligned at: -0.4" + Indent at: 0", Tab stops:
1.07", Left



CR-20F-3518

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

and are filled by the current president of each group or their designee.

B. SAID group representatives are considered non-voting ex-officio representatives in the Senate.

Formatted: Justified, Space After: 12 pt, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: A, B, C, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.75" + Indent at: 1"

Section 43: Senate Officers:

Formatted: Indent Left: 0", First line: 0"

A. The Senate shall choose its officers in the Spring, which shall include a permanent presiding officer selected annually from its membership, who shall be designated as the Senate President. The Senate shall also annually select from its membership a Senate President Pro Tempore, who shall assume the duties of presiding officer in the Senate President's absence. All other duties and requirements of the aforementioned officers, and/or creation of additional Senate officers shall be prescribed by law.

Formatted: Font: Garamond

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

Formatted: Justified, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: A, B, C, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Section 5-4: Apportionment

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

~~General Apportionment: The Senate shall consist of forty (40) general seats, numbered one (1) through forty (40), with one (1) senator occupying each seat, and what is considered representative seats for the number of SAID groups on campus and each group will send one representative from each SAID group occupying each of those seats."~~

Formatted: Font: Garamond

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

1. ~~The Senate shall consist of forty (40) general seats, numbered one (1) through forty (40), with one (1) senator occupying each seat.~~
2. The Senate shall consist of "Chair Seats," the number of "Chair Seats" corresponds with number of Elected Legislative Cabinet Members. "Chair Seats" are only occupied by Elected Cabinet Members.
3. The senate shall consist of representative seats for each Student Alliance for Inclusion and Diversity group (SAID) on campus filled by one (1) representative from each group.

Formatted: Font: Garamond

Section 65: Meetings of the Senate

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

Formatted: Font: Garamond

- A. **Organizational Meeting:** Within one (1) calendar month of each Spring general election, the Senate shall convene for the purpose of organization and selection of all officers as prescribed by law.
- B. **Regular Meeting:** A regular meeting of Senate shall convene during each academic semester a minimum of two (2) times each thirty-one (31) day period, excluding the last week of each semester. The Senate can waive this requirement, for only one (1) meeting per semester, by two-thirds (2/3) vote.



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-20F-3518

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

80
81 C. Special Meeting: The President, by written proclamation, presented to the Senate President,
82 stating a legitimate purpose, may convene, forty-eight (48) hours after the presentation, the Senate
83 in special meeting during which only such legislative business may be transacted as is within the
84 purview of the proclamation, or of a communication from the President, or is introduced by
85 consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate. The President's power to convene the Senate may be
86 prevented only upon a petition of one-half of the Senate's membership. The Senate's power of
87 prevention cannot be general in nature and must apply only to the President's respective
88 proclamation and order to convene.
89

Section 7.6: Definition of Legislation

- 90
91
92 A. Bills: Bills shall be legislative proposals to appropriate ~~finances monies~~, approve Constitutional
93 amendments and revisions, adopt statutory amendments and revisions, and other binding acts.
94
95 B. Joint Resolutions: Joint Resolutions shall be resolutions stating the will of Student Government.
96
97 C. Simple Senate Resolutions: Simple Senate Resolutions shall be the formal expression of the opinion
98 of the Senate or the legislative vehicle used for the internal regulation of the senatorial policies and
99 procedures.
100

Formatted: Highlight

Formatted: Highlight

Section 8.7: Passage of Legislation

- 101
102
103 A. The origination and passage of legislation in Senate shall be prescribed by law.
104
105 B. The passage of ~~Simple Resolutions~~ Senate Resolutions that only express the official opinion
106 of the Senate shall require a majority vote and are not subject to the executive veto power outlined
107 in Section 8 of this Article.
108
109 C. The passage of Simple Senate Resolutions that amend or revise Senatorial policies and
110 procedures shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Senate and are not subject to the executive veto
111 power outlined in Section 8 of this Article.
112

Section 9.8: Executive Approval and Veto

- 113
114
115 A. Every Bill or Joint Resolution passed by majority vote of the Senate shall be presented, by the Senate
116 President, to the President as prescribed by law, but not to exceed five (5) business days.
117
118 B. The Bill or Joint Resolution shall become law if the President approves and signs it, or fails to veto
119 it within five (5) business days after its presentation.

120 1. If any legislation, except a General Appropriation Bill, is vetoed by the President, a
121 presidential veto shall extend to the entire Bill or Joint Resolution.

122 2. If a General Appropriation Bill is vetoed by the President, the President may veto any



SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-20F-3518

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

123 specific appropriation, but may not veto any qualification or restriction without vetoing the
124 appropriation to which it relates. The President may not approve any general appropriation which
125 becomes law or is appropriated after their term of office.

126
127 3. If a Joint Resolution is vetoed by the President, it shall automatically return to the
128 Senate as a simple Senate resolution.

129 C. After a Bill, Joint Resolution, or specific appropriation has been vetoed, the President shall transmit
130 written and/or oral objections to the Senate at the next regular meeting.

131
132 D. Once the vetoed legislation is presented to the Senate, the Senate has three options:

133
134 1. **Override the Veto:** If any Senator motions to override the vetoed legislation at the next Regular
135 Meeting following the Presidential veto, the vetoed legislation shall be placed on the floor of the
136 Senate and be subject to normal parliamentary motions. It must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3)
137 vote. By overriding the veto, the bill can be reenacted or the specific appropriation be reinstated
138 over which the President shall have no veto authority. Any bill reenacted under this provision
139 shall immediately become law. Any specific appropriation re-instated under this provision shall
140 be allocated with all reasonable brevity.

141
142 2. **Amend the Vetoed Legislation:** Vetoed Bills or specific appropriations that are amended
143 in any way after Senate reconsideration shall become de facto a new piece of legislation and
144 be subject to Presidential veto authority.

145
146 3. **No Action Taken:** If no Senator motions to override the veto at the next regular session, the
147 vetoed Bill or specific appropriation cannot be brought back to the floor. This provision
148 applies only to vetoed legislation for the purpose of Senate re-enactment or reinstatement and
149 in no way shall infringe upon the ability of Senate to bring any previously vetoed Bill or specific
150 appropriation back through normal legislative procedures, subject again to presidential veto.
151

Section ~~109~~: Prohibited Laws

152
153 A. Senate shall not enact a Bill or Joint Resolution that conflicts with or violates any Federal law,
154 State law, Local law or ordinance. This shall include but not be limited to Bills of Attainder and
155 Ex Post Facto laws. The Student Government Judicial Branch shall negate and remove, if
156 presented for Judicial Review, existing Student Government law if it conflicts with this provision.
157
158

159 B. Senate shall not enact a Bill or Joint Resolution which adds any qualification or restriction for
160 membership in the Student Government not already outlined in Article I, Section 4. The Judicial
161 Branch shall negate and remove, if presented for Judicial Review, existing Student Government
162 law if it conflicts with this provision.

Section 110: Enactment of Student Government Statute

163
164



Student
Government
University of North Florida

SENATE LEGISLATION

CR-20F-3518

CR-20F-3518: Constitution Revision Committee Amendments to Article II

- 165 A. The Senate shall enact under the procedures outlined in Section 7 of this Article, constitutional
 166 bylaws to be known as Student Government Statutes, with the exception of bylaws concerning
 167 elections, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate
- 168 B. Enacted Student Government Statutes shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year, unless the
 169 Senate votes to immediately enact the statute.
- 170 C. Student Government Statute may be enacted sooner if three-fourths (3/4) of the Senate determines
 171 the issue to be of urgency to the wellbeing of Student Government and the Student Body after which
 172 it will follow the normal legislative process.

Section 124: Additional Powers and Duties

173 The Senate shall:
 174

- 175 A. Approve and allocate the fiscal budget of the Student Government, subject to the provisions of
 176 Section 9 of this Article and Chapter 1009.24 of the Florida Statutes.
- 177 B. Establish its own meeting times, rules, procedures, and may with two-thirds (2/3) concurrence
 178 remove a member due to the excessive accumulation of absence points.
 179

180 Therefore:

181 Let it be enacted that the following changes to Article II be made effective immediately
 182 upon passage by the Student Body and validation of the Fall Student Government
 183 elections.
 184

Legislative Action

Author: Constitution Revision Committee

Sponsor: Thatcher Hart

Committee: R30

Committee Action: 5-0-0

Date of Committee Action: 9/25/20

Senate Action: 16-0-0

Date of Senate Action: 10/2/20

Signed and Delivered to the Office of Elections

on this 5 day of Oct, 2020

Signed: _____

Rachel Saunders, Student Senate President

Time Stamp Here:

