Student Government Association

Tennessee Technological University

SGA Bill SB-F22-C011

An Act to Reform the Student Government Association Senate Committee Procedures and Further Reform the SGA S.O.L.O. Funding Committee

- Whereas, the Senate Standing Committees are individual entities whom the Senate has deigned the powers to perform vital tasks on its behalf; and,
- Whereas, the Senate Standing Committees have expressed a need for increased autonomy in their meeting and expression of duties to best serve the university; and,
- Whereas, such autonomy works to provide more time to Senate meetings that would otherwise be lost on activities better suited for a committee to handle and allow more freedom in expression of their delegated powers; and,
- Whereas, the reform and amendments of the current rules of practice that bind both entities is necessary for the establishment of these requested changes and improvement of various either outdated or improper portions of the laws as they exist at the time of execution; and,
- Whereas, committees with their newfound extended autonomy will be able to better plan and organize events and actions in the interest of the student body as well as serve their primary purposes more effectively; and,
- Whereas, the SOLO funding procedures, as outlined in the SGA Constitution and By-Laws, are outdated and in need of revision to better support student organizations; and,
- Whereas, it is in the best interest of the entire Student Government Organization and Student Body that this bill be passed so that the enumerated amendments, additions, and restructuring proposed be put into action for the benefit of all and present and future.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY THAT

- **Section 1:** This Bill shall be known as the "SGA Committee Reform Act of 2022".
- **Section 2:** ARTICLE X: MEETINGS, Section 1 of the SGA Constitution shall be amended to: "The Senate will meet at least twice monthly, absent good cause. A schedule of

meetings for a semester shall be created prior to the beginning of the semester by the President and published on the website and social media."

Section 3: A new subsection of ARTICLE V: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH Section 6 of the SGA Constitution shall state:

"E. Each Senate Standing Committee Chair shall present a regular meeting schedule, including dates and times to the Speaker of the Senate for approval. Said meeting schedule shall consider the preferences expressed by the members of the respective Senate Standing Committee."

Section 3.1: Furthermore, another new subsection of ARTICLE V: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH Section 6 of the SGA Constitution shall state:

"F. This section shall not restrict any Senate Standing Committees from meeting more often than their schedule states."

Section 4: A new Subsubsection of ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES, Section 2, Subsection B of the SGA By-Laws shall state:

"5. The Chairperson of SGA Senate Standing Committees may call special meetings at any time for important matters with forty-eight (48) hours' notice to all members of the respective committee."

Section 4.1: Furthermore, another new subsection of ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES, Section 2, Subsection B of the SGA By-Laws shall state:

"6. The Chairperson of SGA Senate Standing Committees may cancel a meeting for good reason. Excluding academic holidays, notice of cancellation and said reason for cancellation shall be provided to the Speaker of the Senate."

Section 5: A new subsection of ARTICLE III: LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES, Section 2, Subsection A of the SGA By-Laws shall be amended to:

"Attendance at all Senate functions is required of all members. Absences will be limited to two (2) unexcused absences from any Senate or meeting per semester, two (2) unexcused absences from any Senate Standing Committee meetings per semester, one (1) unexcused absence from any other Senate functions per semester including University committees, and two (2) absences from service hours. These absences will not be cumulative over the academic year."

Section 6: Strike all mentions of the "Dean of Students" in both the Constitution and Bylaws and replace with "SGA Advisor."

- **Section 7:** Within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 2, of the SGA By-Laws, strike Subsection B.
- **Section 7.1:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 3, Subsection A.1 of the SGA By-Laws, strike "in the Student Government Association Office."
- **Section 7.2:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 3, Subsection A.2 of the SGA By-Laws, strike "interview applicants" and replace with "hear requests".
- **Section 7.3:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 3, Subsection A.3 of the SGA By-Laws, amend to state "if required" after "The date, time, and location at which the Senate meeting will take place at which time the S.O.L.O. Fund Allocation Committee recommendation will be presented to the Senate for approval."
- **Section 7.4:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 3, strike Subsection B and Subsection C.
- **Section 8:** Within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 4 of the SGA By-Laws, strike A and insert:
 - "A. Requests or events less than half of the maximum S.O.L.O. fund allocation may be approved by a simple majority vote from the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee. Requests or events more than half of the maximum allocation must also be approved by a simple majority vote of the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee and the SGA Senate.
 - 1. The S.O.L.O Funding Committee may vote to send an application under the "half of the maximum S.O.L.O fund allocation" to the Senate by a simple majority vote if further inquiry is needed."
- **Section 8.1:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, strike Section 4 Subsection B and insert:
 - "B. For requests requiring Senate approval, the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee shall present its recommendation to the Senate. The representative from the respective student organization shall then answer questions from the Senate pertinent to the funding request."

as Subsection B.

- **Section 8.2:** Furthermore, within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, strike Section 4 Subsections C, D, E, and F; then, insert:
 - "1. The Senate shall vote on the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee's recommendation and either approve, alter, or reject that recommendation. The vote on the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee's recommendation shall be taken by roll call and entered into the minutes.
 - 2. Upon completion of the Senate vote, the Speaker of the Senate and the Treasurer shall sign the request and forward the application to the SGA President.
 - 3. The SGA President shall either sign or veto the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee application. If the President signs the application, they shall forward the application to the SGA Advisor.
 - 4. The SGA Advisor shall either accept and sign or reject and veto the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee application presented by the President."

as Subsections of Section B and reorder subsequent Subsections.

Section 9: ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 6, Subsection C shall be amended to state:

"No more than the maximum allotment set forth by the Office of Student Activities will be allocated to any organization with exception of the Student Government Association when conducting campus-wide events to benefit all or a significant portion of the student body. In order for a student organization to receive more than the maximum amount for an application, the event must be deemed exceptional benefit by a simple supermajority of Senators."

- **Section 9.1:** Within ARTICLE VIII: S.O.L.O. FUNDING COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, Section 6, strike Subsection F.
- **Section 10:** This Bill shall take effect at the beginning of the Spring 2023 semester following passage by the Student Government Association, the welfare of the students requiring it.

Respectfully Submitted By: Harrison Simpson Senator, First Year Assembly

Co-sponsor(s):

Keegan Bilodeau Senator, Resident Hall Association

Tymothy Joseph Brandel Senator, College of Graduate Studies

Marc Anthony Hardin Senator, College of Education

Jacob Bruce Senator, First Year Assembly

Madison Jones Senator, College of Agriculture and Human Ecology

Jeb MacLennan Senator, College of Nursing

Pooja Patel Senator, College of Engineering

Lindsey Taylor Senator, College of Interdisciplinary Studies

Mary Davis Senator, Resident Hall Association

For SGA Officer Use Only

Committee Record

Committee Name:	Committee Secretary:	Status:	
Governmental Affairs	Keegan Bilodeau	Passed	
S.O.L.O. Committee	Lindsey Taylor	Passed	
Constitutional Committee	Claire Myers	Passed w/ Amendment	

Senate Record

SGA Secretary:	Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:	Status:
				Passed
Savannah Griffin	24	1	0	Select one

SGA President:

Addison Dorris