

## **STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1140**

**TITLE:** The Supreme Court Syllabus Act

**AUTHOR(S):** Senator Christian Rodriguez

**SPONSORS:** Judiciary Vice-Chair Joaquin R.C. Marcelino, Senator Chalisa Budhai

### **CHAPTER 404 - SUPREME COURT SYLLABUS (2023-XXXX)**

404.1 Intent - The Student Senate, acting on its authority granted by Article III, Section 6(k) of the Student Body Constitution and in consideration of Article V, Section 3(f), enacts the Supreme Court Syllabus Act to authorize the creation of syllabi that simplify complex Supreme Court opinions and make them more accessible to the student body.

404.2 The Chief Justice may appoint a Clerk of Decisions responsible for drafting a syllabus for any opinions deemed necessary by the Clerk or the Chief Justice

404.3 If the provision of 403.2, S.B.S. results in knowledge of privileged or confidential information, the Clerk of Decisions may not disseminate that information unless provided by federal, state, or student body law or federal, state, or student body Supreme Court order. Failure to adhere to this statute shall be deemed an Offense Against the Student Body.

404.4 Any syllabus drafted by the Clerk of Decisions shall be sent to the Supreme Court for approval and/or edits before publication. The syllabus shall be published above the opinion once approved.

404.5 When an opinion includes a syllabus, a headnote shall be displayed above the syllabus stating: "Where it is feasible, a syllabus (headnote) will be released, as is being done in connection with this case. The syllabus constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court but has been prepared by the Clerk of Decisions for the convenience of the reader."

404.6 The Supreme Court will have final authority over the syllabus and the Clerk of Decisions, including the removal of the Clerk of Decisions at the Court's discretion.

*Proviso: A copy of this bill shall be sent to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.*