

Student Senate

3000 J. Wayne Reitz Union PO Box 118505 Gainesville, FL 32611 352-392-1665

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1044

TITLE: Protect Our Democracy Act - Volume 5 (PODA v5)

AUTHOR(S): Minority Party Leader Nathaniel Pelton

SPONSOR(S): Senator Sarah Hoffer, Senator Arturo Zárrate, Senator Elizabeth Insuasti, Senator Isha Khan, Senator Hunter Monson

RULE VII VOTING

(AMENDED: 2014-106, 2016-117, 2018-123, 2019-124, 2019-1104, 2020-1064, 2021-1003, 2023-118, 2023-127)

1. Standard Voting Procedure:

- a. Unless otherwise stated, the standard method for all votes requiring a majority will be by voice, and the method for all votes requiring two-thirds, two-fifths, or one-fifth of the body will be done by rising (not counted) vote.
- b. The chair will declare the outcome of all votes.
- c. Whenever a member doubts the result of a voice vote or rising vote (not counted), either because the result appears close or because they doubt that the representative number of members present have voted, they can call for Division of the Assembly, thereby requiring the vote to be taken again.
 - i. Divisions will be conducted by counted rising vote.
 - ii. Divisions take precedence over any motion on which a vote is being taken or has just been taken. It may be called for from the moment the negative votes have been cast until the announcement of the result is complete, or immediately thereafter before any debate or business has intervened.
 - iii. Divisions can be applied to any motion on which the Senate is called upon to vote by voice or rising (not counted). No subsidiary motion can be applied to it.
 - iv. Divisions do not require a second, are non-debatable and are non-amendable.
 - v. Divisions cannot be reconsidered.
 - vi. When it is clear that there has been a full vote and there can be no reasonable doubt as to which side is in the majority, a call for Division is dilatory.

- d. No one may cast a vote for another Senator, under pain of penalty as outlined in Chapter 309 of the Student Body Statutes.
- e. Senators will indicate how they voted on all main motions on voting records to be kept in the Senate's collection of public records, with the exception of any main motion not printed on the voter record that is done under unanimous consent.
- f. No Senator may explain their vote when a vote is taking place. A Senator may only state yes, no, or abstain when voting. If a Senator does not comply with this provision, the Chair of the Senate will rule the senator out of order.
- g. No Senator may raise a privileged motion not related to the vote while a vote is taking place.
- h. A Senator has the right to change their vote up until the result is announced.
- i. No Senator may abstain from a vote except in cases wherein voting would present a conflict of interest.
 - i. A conflict of interest exists whenever a Senator stands to gain an individual benefit from the matter being considered.
 - ii. Senators who abstain from voting in a voice vote due to a conflict of interest must indicate a reason for the abstention on their voter record.
- j. The chair will not be required to shall not vote except in the event of a roll call vote where their vote would affect the result.
- k. The following types of legislation will be subject to the number of readings as listed below.
 - i. Bills that require one reading:
 - a. An Authorization
 - b. A Resolution
 - c. A Rules and Procedures Change
 - d. A Special Request
 - ii. Bills that require two readings:
 - a. A Constitutional Amendment
 - b. A Reserve Transfer
 - c. A Statute Change
 - d. A Student Body Law
 - iii. Bills that require three readings:
 - a. A Vetoed Bill
- 1. Unless stated otherwise, the standard method for hearing the Activity and Service Fee Budget will be as follows:
 - i. The Activity and Service Fee Budget must be presented to the Student Senate no less than six days prior to first readings.
 - ii. The Activity and Service Fee Budget must be passed through two readings. If the budget is amended, the amended budget must pass through two readings with identical form.

2. Roll Call Votes:

- a. When not otherwise called for, a roll call vote may be ordered by one-fifth of the Senators present and voting at any time before the next question is spoken on.
- b. The roll call will be conducted in accordance with Rule IV §1.

- i. The name of the Chair of the Senate shall be called last during a roll call vote.
- c. Senators may abstain from voting in the roll call vote in cases of conflict of interest pursuant to Section 1(h) of this rule.
 - i. When the Senator wishing to abstain has their name called, they will explain the reason for the abstention to the Senate for consideration.
 - ii. The Senator abstaining will write the reason for abstention on their voting record
- d. Roll call votes will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting, indicating how each Senator present voted.

3. Special Rules Governing Voting:

- a. The Senate may add special rules to the agenda from the floor during Amendments to the Agenda pertaining to voting with a two-thirds vote of the Senate.
- b. The Replacement and Agenda Committee may add special rules to the agenda pertaining to voting with a two-thirds vote of the committee. The Senate may suspend these special rules by a two-thirds vote from the floor during Amendments to the Agenda.

John Brinkman

Senate President