

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1354**

**TITLE: Sponsorship Freedom Act**

**AUTHOR(S): Judiciary Chairman Aaron Rubaii**

**SPONSOR(S):**

**RULE VI**  
**RULES GOVERNING DEBATE**

(AMENDED: 2011-116, 2016-117, 2019-124, 2019-138, 2021-104, 2023-137, 2023-192, 2023-193, 2023-194)

**1. Consideration of Bills:**

- a. Any bill of law, authorization, special request, or resolution will be debated pursuant to this section.
- b. Readings will be by title only, except when otherwise called for by a majority of those present and voting, in which case the Senate Parliamentarian will read the bill in its entirety.
- c. The authors and sponsors of the bill will be afforded five minutes to present the bill to the Senate.
- d. Following bill presentation, five minutes shall be allowed for non-debatable technical questions of the bill's authors and sponsors.
  - i. A non-debatable technical question will be any question that can be answered with "yes," "no," or a known fact.
  - ii. The bill's authors and sponsors may not be compelled to answer a question.
  - iii. The question period may be extended by a majority vote.
  - iv. If there are no questions to be asked, the Senate will move into discussion of amendments if there were any filed with the Senate Secretary pursuant to Rule XIV §2 or reported by committees. If there are no such amendments, Senate will move into debate.
- e. Amendments that have been filed with the Senate Secretary pursuant to Rule XV §2 or reported by committees will be heard following non-debatable technical questions on the original bill.
  - i. Two minutes of presentation, two minutes of non-debatable technical questions, two rounds of con and pro debate with one minute per round per side, and then one minute of final privilege will be in order when hearing amendments.

- ii. Following the above debate procedure, the amendment will be put to a vote.
- f. Following the question period or debate on the last amendment to the bill under consideration, whichever comes last, there shall be a period of pro/con debate on the bill.
  - i. Debate will be structured with three rounds of alternating con and pro with three minutes per side per round, followed by one round of four minutes per side.
  - ii. Any Senator may yield their debate time to a specific Senator or to like-minded speakers.
  - iii. Debate may be limited or extended by a two-thirds vote so long as each side is afforded an equal amount of time.
  - iv. If a Senator's speech is hostile to the side whose time they are using, that Senator will be issued a warning for disruptive conduct and any time used by that speech should be returned to the clock.
  - v. If, during the course of debate, it is deemed necessary to return to a question period, the Senate may do so with a three-fifths vote. The question period will again last for five minutes, then moving back into debate.
  - vi. If there are no Senators wishing to speak on concurrent rounds of con and pro, the Senate will move into final privilege.
- g. Following the debate period, the authors and sponsors of the bill will be afforded three minutes of final privilege.
- h. Following final privilege, the chair will put the question and the Senate will vote on the adoption of the bill.
  - i. Amendments from the floor are prohibited unless the amendment is made by unanimous consent. Amendments must be filed with the Senate Secretary pursuant to Rule XIV §2 to be heard by the Senate unless the amendment is made by unanimous consent.

## **2. Amending Sponsors on the Floor**

- a. If a piece of legislation is on the agenda for a meeting of the Student Senate and a Senator wishes to make changes to the sponsors line during the meeting of the Senate, that Senator must provide a document with the title of the bill at the top, followed by sections for Senators to each write their names to be added or stricken from the sponsors line. The only changes that can be made to the sponsors line on the floor of the Senate must be accomplished through this procedure.
- b. Senators must each write their own names on the document, unless they have explicit, documented written or verbal consent to write someone else's name.
- c. Immediately once a motion is made to amend the title or sponsors line of a certain piece of legislation and approved, the document must be provided to the Chair of the Senate. This document must be signed by all members wishing to add their name to either the author(s) or sponsor(s) line and submitted by the

Chair of the Senate to the Senate Secretaries within 10 minutes of the conclusion of the meeting.



6/10/24

---

Monish Vijayaraghavan  
Senate President

Date