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STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1121

TITLE: Amending Legislation Referral Procedure – RULES AND PROCEDURES REVISION

AUTHOR(S): Senate President Julia Seifer

SPONSOR(S):

RULE X COMMITTEES

(AMENDED: 2011-116, 2016-117, 2019-124, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2023-152, 2023-190, 2024-225, 2024-226)

- 1. Types of Committees:
 - a. Standing Committees of the Senate will be established by Rule XI of these Rules and Procedures.
 - b. Standing Committees will report verbally at every meeting of the Senate on their activities since they last reported to the Senate. Standing Committee reports can be sent electronically by a majority vote of the Senate in place of a verbal report. A verbal report from a Chair, Vice Chair, or other member of a Standing Committee will be allotted no more than 10 minutes to speak about items germane to the committee's business per each Standing Committee. A verbal report from a Chair, Vice Chair, or other member of an Ad-Hoc Committee will be allotted no more than 5 minutes to speak about items germane to the committee's business, per each Ad-Hoc Committee.
 - i. If a committee report does not exhaust its full allotted time, the remainder of the time will be automatically yielded to the Chair of the Senate.
 - c. The Senate President may establish ad-hoc committees to hear business as established in their creation.
 - i. The Senate President will appoint the members and the chair of ad-hoc committees.
 - ii. The Senate President may discharge any ad-hoc committee of the Senate, and must provide a reason for discharging said committee. Examples of reasons to discharge an ad-hoc committee include, but are not limited to: malfeasance, nonfeasance, abuse of power. These recommendations may be made upon receiving the findings of any investigations conducted by the Rules & Ethics Committee of the Senate.

- iii. The Senate may, by a simple majority vote, discharge any ad-hoc committee of the Senate.
- iv. The Senate President will be kept informed of any ad-hoc committee business.
- d. Ad-hoc committees may report to the Senate once they have completed the task(s) that they were created for.
- e. Ad-hoc committees may report to the Senate on their current activities and progress as needed.
- f. Membership of ad-hoc committees may include both Senators and members of the Student Body.

2. Authority Over Committees:

- a. The Senate may refer any legislation to a committee of the Senate (already in existence or to be newly created) by a majority vote.
- b. Legislation that has already been referred or is automatically referred may be discharged from a committee by a two thirds vote. To discharge legislation from an ad hoc committee which is the sole purpose of that committee's creation will be to discharge that committee altogether.
- c. The Senate may order any committee to create a report to the Senate by a majority vote on any matter germane to that committee's normal duties.
- a. The Senate may, by a two-thirds vote, remove any member from an ad-hoc committee or remove a member as Chair of an ad-hoc committee (see Rule XII §§7 and 8 for removal from Standing Committees).
- <u>b.</u> The Senate may also receive minority reports following the regular report of any committee.
 - i. Minority reports may be issued by one or more members of a committee dissenting from the official report of the committee.
 - ii. If any Senator should object to the reading of a minority report, the support of one-fifth of those Senators present and voting is required for the report to be entertained.
 - iii. Minority reports will be allotted minutes to speak about items germane to the committee's business.
 - iv. If a Minority report does not exhaust its full allotted time, the remainder of the time will be automatically yielded to the Chair of the Senate.

Julia Seifer Senate President