

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1141

TITLE: Codifying Member-at-Large as Only Possible Acting Chair for the Replacement and Agenda Committee – RULES AND PROCEDURES REVISIONS

AUTHOR(S): Deputy Majority Party Leader Marco Salvador, Senator Cole Bennett, Senator Cassie Urbenz

SPONSOR(S):

RULE XI

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

(AMENDED: 2009-100, 2009-104, 2009-121, 2009-140, 2010-122, 2011-114, 2011-116, 2011-130, 2014-106, 2014-111, 2016-117, 2018-114, 2018-121, 2019-124, 2019-1104, 2020-1034, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2022-126, 2023-122, 2023-136, 2023-142, 2023-145, 2023-195, 2024-245, 2024-252, 2024-253, 2024-290, 2024-293, 2024-294, 2025-107)

7. Chairs of Standing Committees:

- a. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will announce in their report to the Senate all open chair positions of standing committees.
- b. Senators seeking the Chair of a standing committee will submit a request for chair with the Replacement and Agenda Committee no later than 12:00 PM ET, two days before the meeting at which the interviews will be held. If the Senator is not a member of the standing committee they are seeking to chair, they will also be considered for an open committee seat.
- c. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will interview Senators who have requested to be a chair and will recommend to the Senate the Senator the committee deems best qualified to hold the Chair.
- d. The Senate will hear these recommendations individually, unless otherwise agreed to by unanimous consent.
- e. The appointment process for these recommendations will be as follows: three minutes of presentation, three minutes of questions and answers, three rounds of alternating con and pro debate with three minutes per round per side, and two minutes final privilege.
- f. The Senate may, when considering the committee's recommendation, open the floor to nominations of other members of the standing committee in question with the support of two-fifths of the members present.
 - i. If other nominations are made, elections will be held for chair by rising vote, unless ordered to be by a roll call vote.

- ii. If a nomination from the floor is made, debate will proceed with three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length, followed by one round of two minutes per candidate. If more than one additional floor nomination is made, there will still be three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length, followed by one round of two minutes per candidate.
- g. If the Senate does not adopt the committee's recommendation, the floor will immediately be opened to nominations of other members of the standing committee in question, and elections will be held for chair by rising vote, unless ordered to be by a roll call vote.
- h. The chair of a standing committee is not permitted to be a member of any other standing Senate committee.
- i. The Senate may remove a Senator as chair of a standing committee in accordance with Rule XIII. The Chair of the Replacement and Agenda Committee may not be removed in this manner.
- j. The chair of each committee may rule absences from committee meetings as being either excused or unexcused and file attendance records with the Rules and Ethics Committee (See §9 of this Rule).
- k. Each committee chair may appoint a committee clerk who will be responsible for recording the minutes of the committee, placing the finalized minutes in the respective committee file, and submitting a copy to the Senate Secretary, before the following week's Senate meeting.
- l. The chair will appoint a vice-chair, who will carry out the duties of the Chair in their absence.
- m. Each committee chair will be required to conduct an audio recording for the entire duration—excluding recesses—of each standing committee meeting that must be submitted to the Senate Secretary, before the following week's Senate meeting.
 - i. If the committee chair is not present at a meeting of a standing committee meeting, then the committee vice-chair shall be responsible for conducting and submitting the audio recording to the Senate Secretary, before the following week's Senate meeting.
 - ii. At the committee chair's discretion, the committee clerk may also be charged with conducting and submitting the audio recording to the Senate Secretary, before the following week's Senate meeting.
- n. In the Replacement and Agenda Committee, only a Senate Member-At-Large may be the Vice-Chair.
- o. If the chair and vice-chair are not present at a meeting of a standing committee, the committee will elect a temporary chair from among its membership by a majority of those present and voting. In the case of the Replacement and Agenda Committee, if the Chair (Senate President Pro Tempore) and Vice Chair (Member-at-Large) are both absent, the remaining Member-at-Large shall serve as acting chair for that meeting.
- p. The Senate President may not act as the chair of any committee of the Senate, except for the Senate Executive Board.
- q. At the first meeting of the new Senate term, after the validation of Senate election results each Fall and Spring, following the election of the Senate President and Senate

President Pro- Tempore, the chair of each standing committee must vacate their chair and committee seat.

 7/23/25
Julia Seifer
Senate President Date