



The University of Mississippi
Campus Senate
Minutes for [2/5/19]

- I. Call to Order at 7:01pm
- II. Invocation by Chief of Staff Brady Kies
- III. Pledge of Allegiance by Johnston
- IV. Roll Call
 - a. Members absent: Armistead, Slaughter
- V. Report from Standing Committees
 - a. Committee on Rules
 - i. Approved Resolution 19-1 and Bennett Wilfong to speak
 - b. Committee on Government Operations
 - i. No report
 - c. Committee on Academics and Administration
 - i. No reports
 - d. Committee on Athletics
 - i. No reports
 - e. Committee on Student Life
 - i. No report
 - f. Committee on Infrastructure
 - i. No report
 - g. Committee on External Affairs
 - i. Resolution 19-1 coming to the floor
 - h. Committee on Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement
 - i. No report
- VI. Reports from Legislative Council
 - a. Legislation Monitor
 - i. Legislation is being brought to the floor.
 - b. Executive Liaison
 - i. Continuing collaborative promise meetings
 - c. Campus Liaisons
 - i. No report
- VII. ASB Treasurer Gianna Schuetz Funding Report



- a. Introducing how to use the website olemiss.campuslabs.com to make funding requests. You will have to fill out questions about yourself and fill out details about your request and requesting funds that supports the creed and a reminder about documentation. All documentation needs to be emailed to grschuet@go.olemiss.edu, and any questions can be directed to the same email.

VIII. Nominations

- a. Perspective Deputy Attorney General of Elections Bennet Wilfong called to the floor with Attorney General Austin Fiala. Bennet has served as chair of the elections commission over the last few years and has played an integral role in helping various attorney generals make elections happen. Bennet says he has served on elections for the last 3 years and knows what he's doing. The previous attorney general of elections graduated in December.
 - i. Passed with unanimous consent

IX. Legislation

Resolution 19-1

- Introduction
 - o Will do 2 thing, supporting 2 house bills that exist in the Mississippi legislature. It makes it so that there is a voting place at each 4 year university. He went to the NextGen Summit where they try to make access to democracy much easier and drafted some legislation that would come to committee. The second house bill coming is the makes it so that Mississippi has to fund online voter registration. They have just died in committee hours ago, but ASB has been working on this for weeks. Once it gets into debate, will make an amendment and put it into past tense to express anger on how this is now more difficult for younger people to vote.
- Questions
 - o Mannery: Asks for amendment clarification.



- It will be in past tense to say that it will support the bill that was in committee, bill was killed, and we regret that as it makes democracy more difficult.
- Doty: Are you aware that there is a senate bill that does almost the exact same thing as both the house bills that died in committee today also? Why do you think it died in committee? Are you in contact with the author of the bill? Are you aware that many of the bills that get brought into the house fail because there is simply not enough time?
 - Yes, but we just had access to these and had ASB representatives work on them
 - Didn't have bipartisan support as some do not think that access to voting is a bipartisan issue.
 - In contact with the author of the bill, but has not heard back from their twitter DM.
 - These are two that we as a young generation should want to be prioritized.
- Weaver: Do you have any meeting memos from the Next Gen summit? What is the purpose in supporting dead legislation?
 - Can make these available. The office has the notes as they were hand taken by those who were nominated, and can get the minutes.
 - He thinks it will have an impact because it can be shown in a future caucus and be put in the DM. It shows that we as ASB are engaging with our community. We want them to know that we are watching and want to let the world know that we are holding them accountable.
- Dames: Why should we amend and pass this rather than tabling it?
 - It won't be difficult to amend it. All it will be adding would be making it past tense. This will be in the news tomorrow, we want to be on top of it so that others will not forget about the issue.
- Hall: Do you believe that approving this reconfigured resolution may persuade legislators to take up these bills in future legislature?
 - Yes, it is very possible. We think that maybe in this session or the next they will know it is something we care about and want to make happen.



- o Doty: Would it make more sense to table this now and get into contact with the author of the bill so we can understand the implications as to why the bill was not passed in committee?
 - This isn't something that is super difficult, and we want to have a reaction in real time. We want to see it in the DM tomorrow so they know we care.
 - o Fowler: With this language change, how do you think this is different from the request for a polling place on campus? Do you think it would be better to see why this died and come back later with an amendment?
 - There are 2 difference. We are trying to connect Ole Miss with the capital in Jackson and address online voter registration, which the old resolution did not address.
 - He does not feel that we should return later. After we finalize amendment, we can finalize concerns when that time comes.
 - o Watts: Have you spoken with anyone on Rules Committee?
 - We did.
 - o Wells: Do you think it would be better for ASB to put out a statement rather than amending and passing?
 - That is a good back up option if we are not able to pass the amendment. This is what senate is supposed to do is represent the voices of the students on campus. We want to show that we as senate support it.
 - o Johnston: Do you think that kids of our generation have a hard time connecting with legislators? Will you think having this PR out will help bridge the gap with these age differences and lack of connectivity? Could passing this give it the best PR we could?
 - That is a problem that continues to happen when some people are chairs of committee who are 88 years old. Many people are not able to be reached, and we would hope to have better communication.
 - At the very least, this will begin to open the door that has been closed for far too long.
 - Passing this resolution will give senate the best PR as what we are doing as the legislature of this university.
- Debate



- o Weaver: Support the content of this resolution. Both bills are fantastic and we have been working with people in Jackson, and going to Next Gen is fantastic. Worried that not a single meeting memo or research was attached. We do not know what happened in the summit which is a precedent that we should not break. Concerned that we are scrambling to change the wording and meaning of the resolution to support new found resolution. Does not support nor negate, but loves the content. Is concerned overall.
- o Hall: Does not see any negative implications in passing this resolution in its amended form. We have the ability here to impact real time change. She is angry that it failed in committee in Jackson because she is passionate about seeing here on the Ole Miss campus. It is a way to make a statement to the members in Jackson to show that we are not happy.
- o Fiala: The intent of the resolution as stated in the opening clause is to formally endorse house bills 1346 and 1348. It is clear that the intent of this bill is to endorse house bills. As any amendment to this legislation would be changing the intent of this bill, caution the authors as to amending this and it could not go through Robert's Rules of Order. Recommends to move forward as written and pass or fail it.
- o Riojas: We don't think the intent will be changed as we will still be endorsing these bills whether or not they are dead or alive. We are endorsing the ideas. The bills were to know legislators in Jackson that we support this.
- o Fiala: Takes Riojas at his word that the intent of legislation was to promote these going forward. It is clearly written at the top of the bill to support house bill 1346 and 1348, but changing bill from current context to anything else would change the intent of the resolution.
- o Fowler: The mission of ASB is to be representatives of our constituents. We need to reach out to students on their opinions. Tabling for more student input would be a good idea.
- o Johnson: Thinks all constituents wants their voices to be heard, which is what this resolution would allow. It is our job as Senators to support these students.
- o Doty: We are caught up on the spirit of this bill and not how it will impact students. While it would be timely to pass this tonight, we all support



students to have access to voting, but we think taking the time to talk to the author about why these bills didn't come through committee. Doesn't think that it is because the state legislature hates college students and their ability to vote. Working with them is good, but the whole thing was helping write this legislation and will not speak with them afterwards. It is being rushed through, and we should take time to speak with them.

- o McDonald brings amendment that reads “WHEREAS HB 1346 was an act to require... WHEREAS HB 1346 would have legally provided a mechanism... WHEREAS HB 1348 was an act to authorize... WHEREAS BOTH 1346 and 1348 were killed in committee today... WHEREAS, bipartisan issues that are for the betterment of democracy, especially concerning young people's access to democratic systems, are routinely killed in committee without greater attention.”
- o Introduction to the Amendment to Resolution 19-1.
 - This amendment makes the resolution past tense. We agree that a lot of bills die in committee. There are no reasons right now as to why legislators do not know that we care to vote. We want this to be a way of us saying we do care, this is how we care, and why we care. It needs to be passed tonight because this happened today. It shows that we know what is happening today in Legislation. Worst case scenario if we pass it, no one sees it and no one cares. Best case, we get great PR. If we don't pass it, it shows that senate does not care about being timely. Hopefully, all constituents who care about access to democracy will be happy and those who don't care about democracy will just not care.
- o Debate on Resolution 19-1 with amendment
 - Dames: Speaks on behalf of this amendment. The content of the resolution is the same and the effect on the constituents is the same. If we do not pass it, it will show our constituents that this is not a concern for ASB. We should pass it tonight.
 - Fiala: The bill as amended does not change the intent and the department of justice supports it as written.
 - West: Speaks in affirmation of this resolution. Why did this die in committee but wants to say that is the wrong question. We should



be asking ourselves what the bill supported and is that best for our constituents.

- Summation
- Vote: 49-1-2, the resolution passes.

Senatorial Comments:

President Miller: There is a Leadership Forum tomorrow, trying to make the other half focused on federal legislative priorities. A group goes to SEC in DC where all SEC schools get together on how the government can best support students in the SEC. Would love for the senate to nominate someone to go. If resolutions are written for us to take while lobbying, that would be a cool opportunity for senate to get legislation from ASB senate to the hands of real congressmen and senators in DC. Tomorrow is open forum on what should be discussed with legislature in DC and tell committee chairs what they would like brought up. At 6pm.

Announcements:

Mayfield: Everyone is welcome to come to Roosters for Senate After Dark.

Wells: Liked everyone's input, it is Black History Month, hope everyone comes to support.

Concluded at 8:02PM

Cady Cooper

Secretary

Associated Student Body

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