

Student Government Association Senate
Northern Illinois University
2:00 p.m. – Friday, 27 January 2023
Holmes Student Center Sky Room
Public Streaming: <http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive>

Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an [Intent to Speak](#) form, no later than 11:59 pm, January 22nd, 2023.

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Verification of Quorum
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. *Minutes are distributed electronically to the Senate.*
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Speaker's Report
- VII. Special Report
- VIII. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
- IX. Committee Report(s)
- X. Executive Branch Report(s)
- XI. Cabinet Report(s)
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
 - A. A resolution to confirm the Election Commissioner
 - B. A resolution to confirm the Deputy Speaker of the Senate
 - C. A resolution to confirm the Clerk of the Senate
 - D. A resolution to confirm the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate
 - E. A bill to close a loophole and clarify the Senate attendance policy
- XIV. Good of the Order
- XV. Announcements
- XVI. Adjournment

Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.

New Business

Agenda Item: A

Author: Speaker Douglass

Sponsor:

First Reading

27 January 2023

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 54023
Fifty-Fourth Session

Summary: A resolution to confirm the Election Commissioner

Legislation:

WHEREAS, according to Part II, Article II, §3.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws, “[w]hen the Senate is in session, the Election Commissioner shall be appointed by the President for the Spring Election with the approval of the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Speaker Ethan DeMeuse resigned on January 20th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, President Majeed has appointed Ethan DeMeuse to serve as Election Commissioner;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby confirm Ethan DeMeuse as Election Commissioner for the 2023 elections of the Northern Illinois University Student Government Association.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

New Business

Agenda Item: B

Author: Speaker Douglass

Sponsor:

First Reading

27 January 2023

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 54024
Fifty-Fourth Session

Summary: A resolution to confirm the Deputy Speaker of the Senate

Legislation:

WHEREAS, according to Part I, Article II, §1.P of the Student Government Association Bylaws, “The Speaker shall have the authority to appoint the Deputy Speaker of the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Speaker Ethan DeMeuse resigned on January 20th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Clerk Debbie Allen has served in various positions in SGA and been a leader for the organization; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker has elected to appoint Debbie Allen to serve as Deputy Speaker;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby confirm Clerk Debbie Allen as Deputy Speaker for the remainder of the 54th session of the Northern Illinois University Student Government Association Senate.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

New Business
Agenda Item: C
Author: Speaker Douglass
Sponsor:

First Reading
27 January 2022

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 54025
Fifty-Fourth Session

Summary: A resolution to confirm the Clerk of the Senate

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, Section 1.U of the Bylaws states that the Clerk of the Senate “[s]hall be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate via a simple majority vote”; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Douglass has appointed Senator Chris English to serve as the Clerk of the Senate;
and

WHEREAS, Senator English has displayed leadership qualities and taken initiative in his time in SGA;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that Senator Chris English be appointed as Clerk of the Senate.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

New Business
Agenda Item: D
Author: Speaker Douglass
Sponsor:

First Reading
27 January 2023

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 54026
Fifty-Fourth Session

Summary: A resolution to appoint a Sergeant-At-Arms

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, Section 1.Q of the Bylaws states that the Sergeant-At-Arms “[s]hall be a currently elected Senator appointed by the Speaker of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate via a simple majority vote”; and

WHEREAS, Historian Atlas Babcock has been a leader to the Senate and served in multiple leadership positions;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that Atlas Babcock be appointed as Sergeant-At-Arms.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

New Business

Agenda Item: D

Author: Senator English and Historian Babcock

Sponsor:

First Reading

27 January 2023

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 54026
Fifty-Fourth Session**

Summary: A bill to close a loophole and clarify the Senate attendance policy.

Legislation:

WHEREAS, the bylaws state how Senators are affected by absences within the SGA attendance point policy; and

WHEREAS, Senators who are present for roll call when quorum is not met should not have their attendance points affected; and

WHEREAS, currently there is no specific language excluding present members from being affected by a lack of quorum; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, "The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws";

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the Bylaws shall be amended to the following:

**Section 2
Duties and Responsibilities of Senators**

In addition to those described in the Constitution and Senate Operating Rules, SGA senators shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. Senators shall be required to serve on at least two (2) standing Student Government Association or University committees, one of them being a standing Senate or executive committee.
- B. All Senators of the Student Government Association must adhere to the Attendance Policy of the Senate, which shall be detailed as follows:
 1. Senators who fail to attend regular Senate meetings will be charged absences as follows:
 - a. One-half (1/2) absence toward their semester Senate Attendance record for missing the initial roll call during the Call to Order unless quorum is never reached, in which case a senator will incur one full absence.
 - b. One-half (1/2) absence toward their semester Senate Attendance record for missing the roll call during Adjournment.
 - c. One-half (1/2) absence toward their semester Senate Attendance record when quorum is called for during a meeting and the meeting fails to have quorum at that time and the Senator was not among those recorded present for the roll call of the quorum.